Novemer 18, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZATION FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1421 “LAURA’S LAW” IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND TO FILL ORDINANCE POSITIONS AND APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15 (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (4 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Request authorization to: 1) fully implement the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project, known as “Laura's Law,” in Los Angeles County; 2) sign and execute a resolution authorizing the full implementation of Laura’s Law; 3) fill 18 ordinance positions for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program; and 4) approve an Appropriation Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2014-15; and 5) take such actions as are necessary and reasonable regarding State Department of Health Care Services data reporting requests and other related review elements of the State Demonstration Project established by Laura’s Law.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Authorize the full implementation of all components of Laura's Law in Los Angeles County and direct that no voluntary programs serving adults, and no children’s mental health programs may be reduced as a result of implementation of Laura’s Law.

2. Adopt and instruct the Chairman of your Board to sign and execute the attached Resolution (Attachment I) for full implementation of Laura’s Law and make a finding that no voluntary mental
health programs serving adults, and no children’s mental health programs, may be reduced as a result of implementing Laura’s Law.

3. Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to fill 18 ordinance Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions (Attachment II), in excess of what is provided in the Department’s staffing ordinance, and subject to allocation by the Chief Executive Office, for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program for Los Angeles ("AOT–LA."). This action will be taken pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code.

4. Approve the Request for an Appropriation Adjustment (Attachment III) for FY 2014-15 in the amount of $1,619,000 to increase Salaries and Employee Benefits (S&EB) in the amount of $1,153,000; Services and Supplies (S&S) in the amount of $366,000; and Capital Assets in the amount of $100,000 to provide spending authority for AOT-LA. The Appropriation Adjustment is fully funded with State MHSA revenue.

5. Authorize DMH to take such actions as are necessary and reasonable regarding State Department of Health Care Services (SDHCS) data reporting requests and other related review elements of the State Demonstration Project established by Laura’s Law.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Board approval of the recommended actions will authorize the full implementation of Laura’s Law in Los Angeles County. Funding for DMH to provide AOT services was included in the MHSA Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan adopted by your Board on July 15, 2014.

The expansion of AOT services will be accomplished by creating two intensive outreach and engagement teams with the capacity to evaluate and outreach to 500 additional clients per year and to initiate petitions with the court, as necessary; expanding the capacity by 300 additional slots for Full Service Partnership treatment providers to provide time-limited intensive AOT; expanding the capacity by 60 additional beds for IMD Step-Down Program providers to provide residential treatment for AOT–LA clients who require that level of care; and by establishing an Oversight Committee comprised of the Mental Health Commission, DMH staff, and key community stakeholders.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals
The recommended actions support the County’s Strategic Plan Goal 3, Integrated Services Delivery.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Request for Appropriation Adjustment for FY 2014-15, in the amount of $1,619,000 will increase S&EB in the amount of $1,153,000, S&S in the amount of $366,000 and Capital Assets in the amount of $100,000 to provide spending authority for the implementation of AOT-LA. The Appropriation Adjustment is fully funded with State MHSA revenue. Annualized funding for future years will be requested in the annual budget process.

The total annual cost to implement AOT–LA is $10,032,000. This includes $1,619,000 for the 18 FTE positions and $8,413,000 for mental health services to be provided by DMH contracted
agencies identified to deliver FSP services through an upcoming solicitation process. This cost is fully funded with State MHSA revenue of $5,312,000 and Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal of $4,720,000.

There is no net County cost associated with these recommended actions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Assembly Bill (AB) 1421 (Thomson, Chapter 1017, Statutes of 2002) established the AOT Demonstration Project Act of 2002 (Act), known as Laura’s Law. Laura’s Law provides a mechanism for counties to identify adults with serious mental illness and a history of treatment non-compliance who are at substantial risk for deterioration and/or detention under California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 5150 whose deterioration could be mitigated by mandated acceptance of appropriate services.

On January 16, 2003, your Board resolved to partially implement Laura's Law, within existing resources until funding for full implementation could be identified. Beginning in 2003, the County implemented a pilot AOT program under the voluntary agreement for services portion of Laura’s Law. DMH contracted with a service provider with a capacity to serve 15 individuals every six months.

In February 18, 2004, Protection and Advocacy, Inc. filed litigation on behalf of the California Network of Mental Health Clients challenging the program. In September 2005, the case was voluntarily dismissed after a settlement agreement was reached requiring the County to make technical revisions to its petition format and to provide notice to plaintiffs in the event program capacity exceeded 50 individuals or any involuntary component were implemented. Although the settlement agreement expired in 2008, due to funding reductions, the program was discontinued in 2008. In 2010, the voluntary AOT program was re-established to serve up to 20 individuals at any given time.

On September 9, 2013, Senate Bill (SB) 585 was signed by Governor Brown which clarified that services provided under Laura’s Law may be provided pursuant to the procedures specified in the MHSA. Upon approval of SB 585, DMH began an analysis of Laura’s Law, and the legal, clinical, programmatic, and fiscal processes required to effectively proceed with full implementation. The analysis was guided by DMH, with consultation from experts and community input from a broad range of involved agencies and stakeholders.

Successful and full implementation of this program is contingent upon collaboration and provision of significant resources from the courts, County Counsel, and Public Defender.

DMH will return to your Board for the approval of the contracted AOT-LA FSP providers following the completion of its solicitation process.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will expand capacity of DMH’s AOT Program and will give DMH the opportunity to fully implement Laura’s Law in Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION
DMH will need three original executed resolutions. It is requested that the Executive Officer of the Board notify DMH Contracts Development and Administration at (213) 738-4684 when the documents are available.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

Enclosures

c:  Chief Executive Officer
    County Counsel
    Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
    Chairperson, Mental Health Commission
RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF "LAURA'S LAW" (ASSEMBLY BILL 1421):
"ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT" IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

WHEREAS, the State of California has enacted the "Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002", known as Laura's Law, effective January 1, 2003 (Assembly Bill (AB) 1421, Chapter 1017, Stats. 2002); and

WHEREAS, this legislation regulates designated assisted outpatient treatment services, which counties may choose to provide their residents who meet specified criteria; and

WHEREAS, counties choosing to implement Laura's Law must commit that no voluntary mental health program serving adults and no children's mental health program may be reduced as a result of the implementation of this program; and

WHEREAS, funding for assisted outpatient treatment services was included in the Mental Health Services Act Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 15, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT:

1. The Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002, known as Laura's Law, is operative in Los Angeles County.

2. The Board of Supervisors finds that no voluntary mental health program serving adults and no children's mental health program may be reduced as a result of the expansion of Assisted Outpatient Treatment in Los Angeles County.
The foregoing Resolution was adopted on the 25th day of November, 2014 by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities, for which said Board so acts.

Attest:
SACHI HAMAI, Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

By
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARK J. SALADINO
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By
Principal Deputy County Counsel
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**Total:** 18.0
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

DEPT'S.
NO. 435
November 4, 2014

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:
THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE
ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR
ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR
FY 2014-15
4 - VOTES

SOURCES

USES

See Attachment

SOURCES TOTAL: $ 3,238,000

USES TOTAL: $ 3,238,000

JUSTIFICATION
This adjustment is requested to increase the appropriation for Salaries & Employee Benefits, Services & Supplies and Capital Assets to
provide the additional spending authority for the implementation of Assembly Bill 1421 " Laura's Law" Assisted Outpatient Treatment
Services. The appropriation adjustment is fully funded by State Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) revenue.

There is no impact on net County cost.

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

# 13 NOV 25 2014

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE [Margo Morales, Administrative Deputy]

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

B.A. NO. 050

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

ChIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ACTION

APPROVED AS REVISED

Nov. 4 2014

11/5/14
REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  

FY 2014-15  
4 - VOTES  

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TOTAL SOURCES: $3,238,000  
TOTAL USES: $3,238,000

ADOPTED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  

# 13  NOV 25 2014  

SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER  

BA # 050  

1/4/14