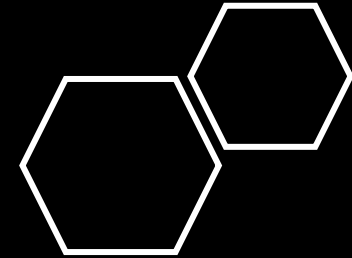




LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY



CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 1

Behavioral Health Services Program and Bond

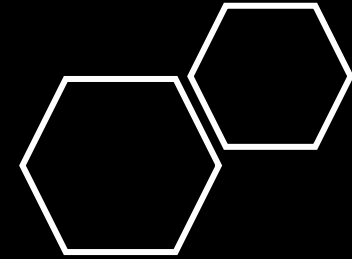
March 5, 2024 Election

Legislatively referred state statute

Combination of Two Bills

SB 326 (Eggman) Modernize Mental Health Services Act

AB 531 (Irwin) \$6.38B GO Bond for
New Behavioral Health Housing and Treatment Settings



Authorizes \$6.38B in Bonds to Build Mental Health Treatment Facilities for those with Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges; Provides Housing for the Homeless

The Question

Should a greater share of county Mental Health Services Act funding be used, and new bonds issued, to build treatment facilities and housing for people with mental illness and substance use disorders, as well as housing for other homeless individuals?

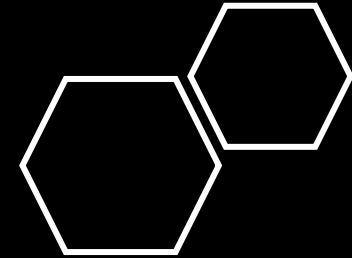
The Basics

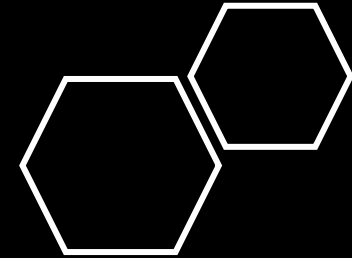
YES

- Rename Mental Health Services Act (2004) to the Behavioral Health Services Act. Expand purpose to include substance use disorders, including for persons without a mental illness
- Change how revenue from the 1% tax on income <\$1M is spent under this law. Requires 30% of the BHSF be allocated to housing intervention programs
- Increase size of oversight commission from 16-27
- Issue \$6.38B in bonds to fund housing for homeless individuals and vets. Includes up to \$4.4B for mental health care and drug/alcohol treatment facilities and \$2B for housing unhoused persons

NO

- Means no. It's not the right way to go about this.





Fiscal Impact

Shifts about \$140M of existing tax revenue for mental health, drug and alcohol treatment from counties to state.

Increases state bond repayment costs of \$310M annually for 30 years

Campaign Finance

Support: \$10M raised; \$1.5M spent

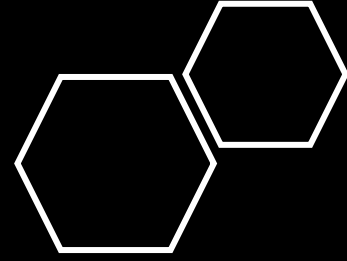
4 committees (Yes on Prop 1)

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Sutter Health, CA Hospital Com on Issues, Kaiser, Building/Construction Trades
SF Chronicle Editorial Board; Bakersfield Californian

Oppose: \$1000 raised

1 committee (Californians Against Prop 1)

OC Register Editorial Board



SUPPORT *Treatment Not Tents*

Fixes our broken mental health system and moves people permanently off the street, out of tents and into treatment. Treatmentnottents.com

Gov, Lt. Gov, Santa Monica City Council

Blue Shield, Sutter Health, Kaiser, Medical Assn.

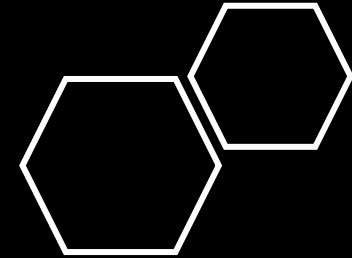
Prof Firefighters, League of CA Cities, Business Roundtable, Chamber, Hospital Assn, NAMI, Mental Health Service Oversight/Accountability Commission, Various Sheriffs, SEIU

- Focus on those with greatest needs, true safety net
- Compassionate approach to care w focus on equity
- Includes substance use disorder and need for housing
- Does not raise taxes

Expands community-based services. Builds Supportive Housing.

Provides treatment over incarceration. Helps homeless veterans.

Addresses shortage of health care workers. Requires strict accountability.



OPPOSE Californians Against Proposition 1

Prop1No.com

SSen Brian Jones, SRep Diane Dixon

Cal Voices, Disability Rights, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn., LWVC, Mental Health America

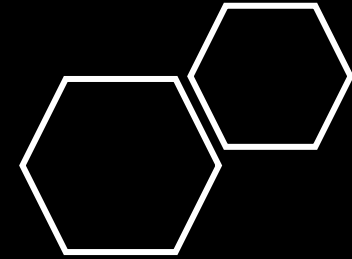
- Devastating cuts to mental health treatment – diverted to housing
- Massive expansion of involuntary treatment options
- Shift money to the state. Counties must do more with less money. Not as community based
- Warn of devastating cuts to mental health treatment programs

Will cost taxpayers >\$10B; go through the regular budget process.

Not a solution to Homelessness. Cuts services for the mentally ill.

Mandates state over local control, with less oversight.

Increases costs, cuts vital programs, unproven ideas.



LWVC Recommendation OPPOSE

Rushed through Legislative session w last-minute changes

Now includes involuntary treatments in locked facilities

Not enough substantive debate, esp from diverse community-based orgs

- potentially leading to worse health outcomes, curtail individual liberties

Does not increase the funding for county mental health services

- less control in community to set their own priorities

Budgetary decisions should be made by the Legislature, not earmarking fund through ballot initiatives

- restricts counties and the state from redirecting funds to alternative models of care, or other needs.

Teri's Take Aways

Shift in State Mental Health Priorities by Legislature
from all Californians to those in greatest need

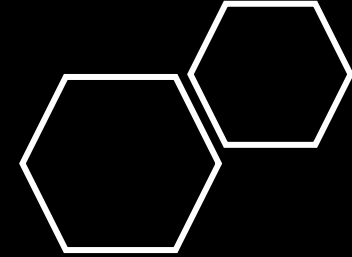
If Prop 1 passes:

- funds will be needed for county programs – the gap is too big
- will only help a very small portion of the “homeless problem”

Questions around:

- the legislative process – so complex
- voluntary/involuntary -- what's the mix? Is involuntary ever needed in acute cases?
- types of housing: permanent supportive housing, outpatient, temporary beds, rental assistance

Prevention often saves taxpayers money -- hard sell



CA Prop 1 Resource Links

[Ballotpedia Reference](#)

[LWVCEF California Pro/Con](#)

[LWVCEF Short version Pro/Con](#)

[LWVC Recommendation on Prop 1](#)

[CA Voter Guide](#)

[CalMatters 9/14/23 article on late changes to bond bill](#)

[Prop1no.com](#)

[TreatmentNotTents.com](#)

[CalMatters – Getting People off the Streets?](#)

[Davis Vanguard – Why Oppose Prop 1?](#)

[Understanding Prop 1 by Cal Budget & Policy Center](#)

Teri Neustaedter. tmufic@gmail.com

