



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM  
APRIL 4, 2024**

**BHAB Public Comment Language on Senate Bill (SB) 43**

BHAB Public Comment: Board of Supervisors Meeting, April 9, 2024.

My name is Todd Boyer, a member of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) and I am here to speak on behalf of our board to address SB 43 implementation.

We would like to express our appreciation that the Involuntary Behavioral Health Treatment Collaborative was formed to help facilitate discussion and planning for implementing SB 43. It has brought together many stakeholders to the table, which provided invaluable data and insight.

We recognize that regardless of whether we support the idea of compulsory care, we all desire SB 43 to deliver an excellent service, performed by well trained professionals, that leads to successful outcomes, that is adequately funded, and that works to remove barriers to sustained behavioral health and wellness.

It is said that people do not resist change, they resist transitions such as a transition from a life with severe substance use disorder to a life of sobriety. We would like you to understand the gravity of implementing SB 43 in a way that is responsible, respects the complexity of ongoing behavioral health challenges, and ensures safeguards to prevent harms to already vulnerable and marginalized populations.

We believe strongly that every system or program we design for a population or group is most comprehensive and successful when it is informed by people who have lived experience of that population or group. Ideally the informing starts at the very beginning and is constant through the design, is represented on the program staff, involved in auditing, and there when the program concludes. We encourage you to reach out to Lived Experience experts and advisors at every opportunity.

Thank you.

**It is THEREFORE, recommended that BHAB vote to approve the SB 43 public comment statement to be presented on behalf of BHAB at the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 9, 2024.**