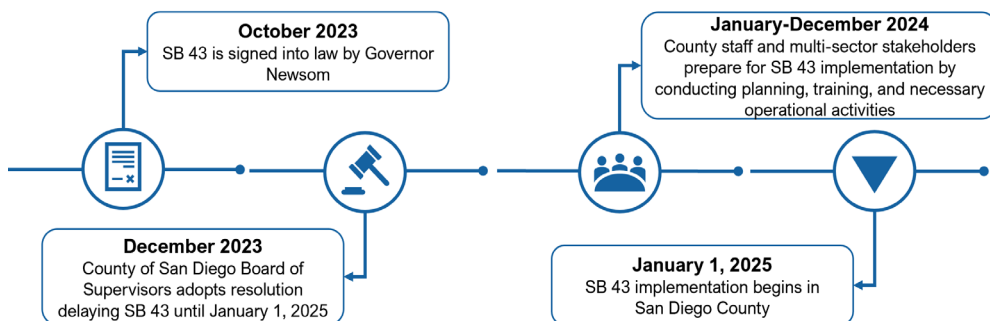


# SENATE BILL 43 PROGRESS UPDATES



- **SB43 Readiness Preparation:** SB43 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in October 2023 with an effective date of January 1, 2024. Counties were provided an option to delay until January 1, 2026 and on December 5, 2023, the County Board of Supervisors opted to implement SB43 on January 1, 2025, to allow time for planning with community members, providers, and stakeholders.
- **Planning and Strategy:** In January 2024, the County began a multi-sector planning group to support rapid SB43 implementation, focusing on: Education and training, Expanding Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment, services, and supports, Establishing alternatives to emergency departments for 5150 holds, Updating procedures and adding capacity for the Office of the Public Conservator
- **Funding Approval:** On February 27, 2024, the Board approved \$15 million in bridge funding from ARPA Evergreen to support SB43 implementation.
- **January 1, 2025:** SB43 implementation begins in San Diego County.



## PUBLIC CONSERVATOR (PC) PROCEDURES & CAPACITY

- Implemented new PC data collection case tracking tool.
- New staffing model and referral estimates completed.
- PC referral process updated to include SB43 related involuntary treatment.
- Workflow analysis and operating procedure update underway.
- PC staff received multiple in-service presentations on SUD treatment resources.
- PC collaboration and consultation during County Case Conferences held specifically to review potential LPS eligible patients under SB43 criteria.
- PC has updated and finalized existing SB43 policies and procedures effective 1/1/25 to align with SB43 expanded criteria.

## ALTERNATIVES TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS (ED)

- Effective 1/1/25, amendments to Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) contracts became effective allowing individuals with primary and stand-alone SUD to be admitted.
- In July 2024, new CSU facility broke ground in East County, expanding CSU coverage to all regions with services anticipated to begin late 2025.
- Operational meetings held with CSU providers to implement SUD service delivery and care coordination into CSU settings to new SB43 related involuntary holds.
- SD Relay offers behavioral health support in EDs for those with substance use-related care needs including those with non-fatal overdose and those on involuntary holds. Peer Support Specialists have been hired and are starting to serve individuals in the EDs. Two ED sites have been gone live and are referring patients and 1 additional ED site is in the final stages of approval.
- Amendments are underway to psychiatric acute inpatient hospital contracts to cover statutorily authorized involuntary SUD treatment, when necessary for Medi-Cal clients, in situations where current Medi-Cal reimbursement is unavailable.

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Conducted 162 introductory trainings, 32 of which for 1,133 law enforcement and PERT individuals, 19 to 678 individuals representing 14 LPS-designated facilities, and 111 to 1,560 individuals representing 79 Non LPS-designated facilities.
- Launched comprehensive SB43 website with links to additional resources.
- Hosted 9 Collaborative Workgroup sessions and subcommittees with stakeholders from law enforcement, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), hospital systems, individuals with lived experience, and other community partners.

## EXPANDED TREATMENT, SERVICES & SUPPORT

- Over the last few years, BHS increased capacity in our opioid treatment programs by 300 treatment slots, this includes 50 spots just recently added.
- Over the last year BHS has increased treatment capacity by 10% in our largest general adult substance use outpatient programs. We are building capacity for MAT and AWM at multiple outpatient programs with the goal of having these medical services at the majority of our outpatient SUD locations by the end of FY 24/25.
- The Alvarado Parkway Institute contract has been amended to include Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospital (CDRH) beds for patients requiring inpatient level of care with approval from the Clinical Director needing to be obtained prior to admission into these beds.
- Optimal Care Pathway 2.0 modeling is currently underway. This service mapping and analysis will guide ongoing SUD system capacity planning.
- In January 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Sharp HealthCare for the provision of approximately six new CSU recliners at the Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center.
- Effective early 2025, \$12.4m will be dedicated to developing 48 new recuperative care beds countywide, which will boost hospital – SU treatment coordination to support those with complex medical and behavioral health needs access to temporary housing placement and transition into an appropriate level of care.
- Tri-City Psychiatric Health Facility in the North Region is anticipated to be operational in Spring 2025 and will be able to serve clients with SMI and co-occurring SMI/SUD.
- Launching July 2026, new SUD capacity with the Substance Use Recovery Treatment Services (SURTS) program in the South Region: 72-96 new beds for residential treatment, withdrawal management (detox), and recuperative care.