

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002, known as Laura's Law, is a California state law that allows for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment; and

WHEREAS, the law was named after Laura Wilcox, a receptionist at a public mental health clinic, who was killed by a man who had refused psychiatric treatment; and

WHEREAS, assisted outpatient treatment is an intensive court-ordered treatment in the community for those most overcome by the symptoms of severe mental illness and is used until a person is well enough to maintain his or her own treatment regimen; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for the program, the person must have a serious mental illness plus a recent history of psychiatric hospitalizations, jailings or acts, threats or attempts of serious violent behavior towards self or others; and

WHEREAS, until January 1, 2022, Laura's Law authorizes each county to choose to offer specified mental health programs either through a resolution adopted by the county or through the county budget process if the county board of supervisors makes a finding that specified mental health programs will not be reduced as a result of participating; and

WHEREAS, AB 1976 would instead require a county to offer those mental health programs unless a county opts out by a resolution passed by the governing body stating the reasons for opting out and any facts or circumstances relied on in making that decision; and

WHEREAS, AB 1976 would also authorize a county to offer those mental health programs in combination with one or more counties, as well as repeal the expiration of Laura's Law, thereby extending it indefinitely;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1976 (Eggman), which would require counties to offer mental health programs specified under the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002, unless a county opts out by a resolution passed by the governing body.

PRESENTED BY: David Ryu
DAVID RYU
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: John O'Connell

ORIGINAL

DR

FEB 07 2020