AGENDA ITEM NO.
C-2

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: January 3, 2017

Date: December 20, 2016

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Virginia Bass

Subject: The National Association of Counties (NACo) Stepping Up Initiative Resolution

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors adopt the Resolution.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: In May, 2015, NACo and partners at the Council of State Governments Justice Center and American Psychiatric Association launched ***Stepping Up: A national Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illness in Jails.*** As part of the call to action, counties are being asked to pass a resolution and work with other leaders and stakeholders, i.e. sheriff, judges, district attorney, probation, treatment providers, and state and local policy makers to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution.

Prepared by Kathy Hayes Signature Virginia Bass

REVIEW:
Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Personnel _____ Risk Manager _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
XX Consent
_____ Departmental
_____ Public Hearing
_____ Other ___
PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Sundberg Seconded by Supervisor Fennell
Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn, Wilson
Nays
Abstain
Absent

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: Jan. 3, 2017
By: Kathy Hayes
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

RESOLUTION

OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general population; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, through *Stepping Up*, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in county jails, commits to sharing lessons learned with other counties in the state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourages all county officials, employees and residents to participate in *Stepping Up*.

Virginia Bass

DATED: January 3, 2017

Virginia Bass, Chair