

Assemblymember Jim Wood
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: SB 445 (Portantino) Alcohol and drug treatment: youth - Support

Dear Assemblymember Wood:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors supports SB 445 (Portantino) which would begin the process of creating basic standards for the provision of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) prevention, intervention and treatment services to youths up to the age of 26.

Relatively few SUD services are available for young Californians today. Those that do exist are not required to meet standards that ensure those services take into account the unique biological, psychological and social development of youths. As funds become available for SUD services, statewide standards are needed to ensure that youths are provided high-quality, effective and culturally competent services. The convening of an expert panel to direct and guide the Department of Health Care Services as it adopts regulations in this field is critical for the protection of California youths while improving stewardship of public funds.

Humboldt County supports legislation that protects community health. We are pleased to join with the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) and the County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) in our support for SB 445.

Sincerely,

Rex Bohn
Chair, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

cc: Shaw/Yoder/Antwith, Inc.
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA)
County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC)
County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Tim Ash, Humboldt County Behavioral Health Board

