Laura’s Law Legislative Advocacy

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors will vote to implement or opt-out of Laura's Law (also known as Assisted Outpatient Treatment or AOT) on May 25th, 2021. For a concise, one-page summary of AOT and its benefits, click here. For a list of common misconceptions, click here. Please find below a list of ways in which you can make an impact on the vote, and advocate that the Board implements Laura’s Law.

1. Email the Board of Supervisors. It is best to email each District office separately (it can be the same note).
   a. District 1
      i. District1@bos.sccgov.org
      ii. heather.wilson@bos.sccgov.org
   b. District 2
      i. cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org
      ii. Scott.Strickland@bos.sccgov.org
      iii. maja.marjanovic@bos.sccgov.org
   c. District 3
      i. Supervisor.Lee@bos.sccgov.org
      ii. wendy.ho@bos.sccgov.org
      iii. michelle.osorio@bos.sccgov.org
   d. District 4
      i. supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org
      ii. c.rutherford-stuart@bos.sccgov.org
   e. District 5
      i. Supervisor.Simitian@bos.sccgov.org
      ii. micaela.hellman-tinch@bos.sccgov.org
      iii. matt.savage@bos.sccgov.org

2. Write a letter to be included in the May 25th Meeting public record
   a. For a letter to be included in the public record of a Board of Supervisors meeting, email BoardOperations@cob.sccgov.org 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin.
   b. Include in the subject line the date of the meeting and the item of interest.
      i. “May 25th 2021 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Assisted Outpatient Treatment”

3. Co-sign the letter from Councilmember Mahan and 40+ community leaders
   a. Email adrian.rafizadeh@sanjose.ca.gov saying “Signed” with “AOT Co-signed Letter” in the subject line.
   b. It’s often more impactful to include a title, for identification purposes. This can even be “Family Support Group Member” or similar titles. Please indicate any title that you would like to use in the email to adrian.rafizadeh@sanjose.ca.gov

4. Speak at the May 25th Meeting
a. The meeting will begin at 9:30am and will continue throughout the day, it is unclear yet at what time the Laura’s Law item will be discussed.
c. Once public comment begins for the Laura’s Law item, use the “Raise Hand” feature (pictured below) on Zoom to speak. You will have either 1 minute or 2 minutes to speak, depending on the quantity of people hoping to speak.

i. 

Recommended content for written and spoken advocacy

- An introduction of who you are and why you care about mental health advocacy.
- An explanation of why you believe that Laura’s Law / Assisted Outpatient Treatment would be beneficial. Ask the Board of Supervisors to opt-in to Assisted Outpatient Treatment.
  - For statistics and empirical resources, feel free to email adrian.rafizadeh@sanjoseca.gov for information to include in your comment.
- A request that the Board of Supervisors prioritize proper implementation of AOT.
  - Ask the Board of Supervisors to establish a citizen commission specifically responsible for overseeing AOT implementation.

Credits: The advocacy guide produced by Matt Mahan’s office, District 10