



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (BHAB) ACTION ITEM OCTOBER 7, 2021

ACTION ITEM: AMENDING THE BHAB ORDINANCE AND BYLAWS BOARD LETTER

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) established the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) in 2014, by merging the County of San Diego (County) Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board with the County Mental Health Board. At that time, bylaws were adopted to govern their internal operations in accordance with Board Policy A-74, Citizen Participation in County Boards, Commissions and Committees, which oversees special citizen boards that advise the Board and County staff on issues of policy and serve as links to the community.

This action seeks Board approval to amend the BHAB Ordinance and bylaws to align with language in Assembly Bill (AB) 1352, which further defined the roles of County mental health boards in 2019.

The amended Ordinance and bylaws, as detailed in Attachments A & A-1 and B & B-1 propose changes to:

- Ensure efficient BHAB operations by clarifying ambiguous language relating to terms of members, in particular to those serving on the BHAB Executive Committees;
- Align with changes to membership criteria and composition requirements for BHAB, pursuant to AB 1352; and
- Conform with additional requirements in alignment with current California Welfare and Institutions Code, as modified by AB 1352.

If approved, this action would approve the amended BHAB Ordinance and bylaws and would support the countywide *Live Well San Diego* vision by enhancing community involvement in the planning and provision of behavioral health services, supporting a region that is healthy, safe, and thriving.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that your Board vote to support the authorizations and approvals needed to advance the recommendation in this Board Letter.