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MAY 2 2022

CITY OF IRVINE
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Memo

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Larry Agran, Councilmember *LA*
Farrah N. Khan, Mayor *FK*
Tammy Kim, Councilmember *TK*

Date: April 28, 2022

Re: **Resolution of Support for the Mental Health Justice Act**

On February 8, 2022, the Irvine City Council directed staff to research best practices and the feasibility of creating an Office of Health and Wellness, identify potential funding sources for this office, and perform and audit existing services and programs that should operate out of this office.

On March 9, 2022, Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra visited Irvine's Great Park and toured Be Well OC's City of Orange site to commend the City's efforts to promote mental health services for residents. U.S. Representative Katie Porter, present at that event, has proposed the Mental Health Justice Act of 2021, which, if passed, would authorize the Secretary to fund cities that are serving people in mental health crises with non-police crisis intervention and emergency responders. Inspired by this initiative, I wrote a letter of support for the legislation and sent it to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Health.

The City of Irvine has had longstanding alternative crisis response models for people with disabilities through the Public Safety Department's Mental Health Unit, which serves people alongside an Orange County clinician through a case-management approach. This legislation could not only increase funding to our existing programs, but also provide funding for new programs in the Office of Health and Wellness.

I encourage everyone to send a letter of support to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Health and add the attached resolution on the May 10, 2022, City Council agenda for discussion, so that we consider supporting this legislation funding health and safety programs.

cc: City Manager
City Clerk
City Attorney
City Chief of Police

RESOLUTION NO. 22-____
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE
MENTAL HEALTH JUSTICE ACT OF 2021

WHEREAS, the City of Irvine directed staff to research best practices and the feasibility of creating an Office of Health and Wellness, identify potential funding sources for this Office, and perform and audit existing services and programs that should operate out of this office; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra visited the City of Irvine to commend forthcoming efforts to promote mental health services in the City and County, including Be Well OC; and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health Justice Act of 2021 (introduced by U.S. Representative Katie Porter) is a potential source of funding for mental health services and is currently being reviewed by the U.S. House Subcommittee on Health; and

WHEREAS, the City's Public Safety Department has long supported people with disabilities through its Mental Health Unit to serve people alongside an Orange County clinician through a case-management approach;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Irvine, California, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated therein.
2. The City of Irvine desires that the United States Congress adopt the Mental Health Justice Act of 2021.
3. The City will send a letter to indicate its support for the legislation to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Health.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Irvine at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2022.

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) SS
CITY OF IRVINE)

I, CARL PETERSEN, City Clerk of the City of Irvine, HEREBY DO CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Irvine, held on the ____ day of _____, 2021.

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS: