

April 4, 2023

Susan Talamantes Eggman, Chair  
Senate Health Committee  
1021 O Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for SB 363 (Eggman) - Behavioral Health Bed Database**

Dear Senator Eggman,

On behalf of the City of Eureka and the Eureka City Council, I write in support of SB 363, which would require, by January 1, 2025, a real-time behavioral health bed database to collect, aggregate, and display information about available beds in crisis stabilization units, inpatient psychiatric facilities, residential community mental health facilities, and licensed residential alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities. This information would provide timely access to care and increase coordination across service settings.

The City of Eureka is the county seat of Humboldt County, California, and is the heart of the Redwood Coast. Eureka is the market and cultural center of a beautiful region surrounded by the world's tallest trees and rugged ocean landscapes. The City is known for its Victorian architecture and creative and welcoming culture. The City also, like so many cities across the nation, has a profound need for a behavioral health bed database.

A significant roadblock in our fragmented behavioral health continuum is a lack of care coordination between various provider types and a lack of information about which resources are accessible or available in the community. SB 363 would require a database to include a minimum baseline of information, including the contact information for a facility's designated employee, the types of diagnosis or treatments for which the bed is appropriate, and the target populations served at the facility. The database would also have the capacity to enable searches to identify beds that are appropriate for individuals in need of inpatient or residential mental health or substance use disorder treatment.

Furthermore, SB 363 would authorize the State Department of Health Care Services to impose a plan of correction to ensure that data is submitted in an accurate and timely manner.

For these reasons, the City of Eureka lends its voice to the broad support for SB 383. Thank you for considering our support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Kim Bergel  
Mayor  
City of Eureka

