

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

October 1, 2002

The Department of mental Health has proposed a \$7.3 million reduction in mental health services provided by community based contract agencies as part of its efforts to achieve a balanced budget for FY 2002-2003. The Department's network of services will be further eroded by the elimination of more than 2,500 community outreach service units, much of which is targeted to underserved populations. These reductions would be especially devastating at a time when current resource levels are not sufficient in meeting the needs of this population. As a result of these changes, many of these individuals will ultimately decompensate and require costly crisis treatment in already overwhelmed County hospital psychiatric emergency rooms or end up in the County Jail system, resulting in greater cost to the County.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that \$7.3 million be reallocated from the Estimated Fund Balance to the Department of Mental Health to maintain these essential services provided by community based contract agencies.

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RE:gr

MOTION

MOLINA _____

BURKE _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____