

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 18, 2003

REVISION TO ITEM 12

President Bush announced a three-year \$600 million federal treatment initiative to help up to 300,000 alcohol and drug-dependent Americans find needed treatment from the most effective programs including faith-based and community-based organizations. This initiative will allow individuals seeking treatment to be assessed and presented with a voucher to allow providers to seek reimbursement for their services.

Currently, there are 790,000 youth, adults, and seniors in Los Angeles County using illicit drugs, and in 1997, the second leading cause of premature death and disability was alcohol dependence.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

BURKE _____

Alcohol and drug dependency is intimately connected with crime. Those costs to incarcerated drug addicts and to treat those who need treatment services are staggering. California's economic uncertainty requires that we seek alternatives to make treatment more accessible.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board, upon introduction and review of legislation, send a five-signature letter to President Bush supporting his treatment initiative. Direct the Chief Administrative Office to follow the development of this legislation and apprise the Board of the details and criteria as set forth in the legislation. Instruct the County's legislative advocates to express the County's willingness to assist President Bush and the State and Federal governments in developing and implementing the initiative in a manner that meets the concerns of all members of the County's diverse community such as faith-based organizations and alcohol recovery and drug treatment program providers.

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MDA:rkrc