

RESOLUTION NO. 23-024

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY
OF VENTURA IMPLEMENTING WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE
SECTIONS 5270.10 ET SEQ TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF
ADDITIONAL PSYCHIATRIC HOLDS FOR PERSONS DETERMINED
TO BE GRAVELY DISABLED**

WHEREAS, the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act (LPS), Welfare and Institutions Code Section¹ 5000 et seq., authorizes inpatient psychiatric facilities designated by the County of Ventura (County) to involuntarily hold individuals determined to be gravely disabled for an initial 72-hour period and thereafter for an additional 14 days under Sections 5150 and 5250, respectively; and

WHEREAS, these initial hold periods do not always allow sufficient time to complete a thorough assessment, achieve patient stabilization, determine future treatment options, and/or investigate if there are family or other resources available to support gravely disabled individuals in the community; and

WHEREAS, insufficient time for thorough assessment, treatment, and investigation often results in more restrictive and costly institutional placements and gravely disabled individuals being placed under the extensive powers and authority of a County-managed conservatorship, thereby adding to the caseload and costs of the Ventura County Public Guardian Program; and

WHEREAS, under Section 5270.10 et seq., county boards of supervisors may adopt a resolution to authorize LPS-designated inpatient psychiatric facilities to involuntarily hold gravely disabled individuals for two additional 30-day periods, following the initial 72-hour and 14-day holds authorized by Sections 5150 and 5250, upon finding that existing mental health services will not be reduced due to the implementation of Section 5270.10 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, under Section 5270.10 et seq., individuals may be held for the additional 30-day periods only if the LPS-designated facility treating the individual determines that the individual remains gravely disabled and remains unwilling or unable to accept treatment voluntarily; and

WHEREAS, the County, acting through its Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH), anticipates that the implementation of Section 5270.10 et seq. for the investigation, assessment, stabilization, and treatment of gravely disabled individuals will reduce the number of necessary institutional placements, the number of

¹ Hereinafter, all sections references are to the Welfare and Institutions Code.

conservatorships, and thus the costs to the County associated with filing, establishing, and administering conservatorships; and

WHEREAS, VCBH wishes to authorize LPS-designated inpatient psychiatric facilities in Ventura County to hold gravely disabled individuals for two additional 30-day periods for investigation, assessment, stabilization, and treatment where necessary, and therefore requests the Board of Supervisors make the findings set forth in Section 5270.12.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors does hereby resolve, find, determine, and order as follows:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

SECTION 2. As required by Section 5270.12, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors finds:

1. Any additional costs incurred by the County in the implementation of Section 5270.10 et seq., including the involuntary hold of gravely disabled individuals for two additional 30-day periods for investigation, assessment, stabilization, and treatment purposes, will be funded by (i) new funding sufficient to cover the costs incurred by the County resulting from the implementation of Section 5270.10 et seq.; (ii) existing funds redirected from cost savings resulting from the implementation Section 5270.10 et seq.; or (iii) a combination of either.

2. No mental health service reductions will occur as a result of the County's implementation of Sections 5270.10.

SECTION 3. Based on the findings set forth herein, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors approves the implementation of Sections 5270.10 et seq.

Upon motion of Supervisor LaYere, seconded by Supervisor Parvin, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves and adopts this Resolution on the 28 day of February, 2023.

Man J. V.
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura

ATTEST: DR. SEVET JOHNSON
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura, State of California.

By: Don Key
Deputy Clerk of the Board

