

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 5.180 TO THE MENDOCINO COUNTY CODE ENTITLED THE “MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT ACT” ADOPTING A COUNTY TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF FUNDING IMPROVED SERVICES, TREATMENT AND FACILITIES FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

County Counsel Summary

This ordinance adds Chapter 5.180 to the Mendocino County Code entitled the “Mental Health Treatment Act” which would adopt a County special tax of one half cent per dollar for five (5) years and one eighth cent per dollar thereafter for the specific purpose of funding improved services, treatment and facilities for persons with mental health conditions. The ordinance applies to the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Mendocino County. The ordinance creates a Mental Health Treatment Fund entirely dedicated to the specific purpose stated above into which 100% of the revenue from this measure shall be deposited and dedicates the revenue in the following manner: for a period of five (5) years a maximum of 75% of the revenue deposited into the Mental Health Treatment Fund may be used for facilities, with not less than 25% dedicated to services and treatment, and thereafter 100% of all revenue deposited into the fund shall be used for improved services and treatment.

This ordinance also provides for a Citizen’s Oversight Committee to review the annual independent audit, to oversee compliance with the specific purpose of the ordinance, and to provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on the implementation of this ordinance.

State law requires that all of the funds raised will only be used for the designated special governmental purposes of providing improved services, treatment and facilities for persons with mental illness and other behavioral health conditions and will take effect only if approved by two-thirds of the voters voting on the measure at the November 7, 2017 election.