

Submitter: Albert Parramon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB3431

Dear Honorable Legislators,

I am writing to bring your attention to the potential consequences of passing the proposed bill HB3431, which could divert much-needed M110 funding for culturally specific agencies and programs providing substance use disorder services. I urge you to consider the critical role that these programs play in serving our communities and the detrimental impact that cutting their funding could have.

As you may be aware, culturally specific agencies and programs funded by M110 have faced significant challenges in securing funding and building their workforce. While they have been working tirelessly to overcome these obstacles and begin providing services to those in need, they have not yet been able to fully realize their potential due to initial delays and ongoing struggles to become sustainable. By diverting funding at this critical juncture, we risk undermining the progress they have made thus far and hindering their ability to deliver on their mission to serve our communities. Not only would this jeopardize the vital services they provide, but it could also have serious consequences for individuals and families struggling with substance use disorders.

Moreover, many of the programs funded by M110 are specifically tailored to the cultural and linguistic needs of the communities they serve, which is crucial for effective and meaningful support. Cutting their funding would not only harm their ability to provide essential services but also perpetuate disparities in access to care and perpetuate systemic inequities.

In light of these considerations, I urge you to reconsider the proposed bill and to support the critical work being done by culturally specific agencies and programs providing substance use disorder services. Please recognize the important role these programs play in our communities and the potential harm that could result from cutting their funding while they are still working to become sustainable and deliver on their mission to serve the community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Albert Parramon, MA, LPC, MAC, CADDC III