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Good afternoon Chair Campos and members of the committee on the subcommittee on Human Services,

For the record my name is Lawrence Hocog and I work at the Stabilization and Crisis Unit. I've worked here for 12 years and am here today to speak in opposition to the proposed cut to the current service level as proposed.

It is urgent that we truly see the impact closing any portion of SACU can have. (TS Story) **We cannot risk having our vulnerable population go house less on the streets.** First, we know from our community partners they cannot manage our individuals without the same resources we already have. **We have not given the private sector enough time to figure this out and to also understand the bigger picture.**

I have seen private placements drop the ball, and I have seen many return back to SACU because they could not be supported properly. It seems we still have work to do and particularly, we need to involve our transitioning making sure they understand how we can be successful with individuals being moved to private placement. Should we add more transition time, or even revisit later to see how moves are going. Ensuring training is happening with new staff and to also ensure they have resources to be successful.

**Let us not rush because of the failure of our past leadership.** These discussions have been going on, but why have we not empowered staff to do what they can to raise awareness and also contribute to helping reduce costs etc. **The cost to remedy this dismantling of a program that already is high in demand is not the solution!** We need to all be on the same page and finally be transparent! Let's find



real solutions and not just a band-aid that is temporary. Please keep SACU funding at current service level.