

Submitter: Angela Camardese
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1583

To whom it may concern,
I oppose this measure because it cuts funding that is crucial in the recovery community. Peer support specialists are not only the heart of our organizations, they are also the bridge of hope that connects patients to vital resources and ongoing support.

Peers are often the first people our patients turn to when they are struggling and just need someone to talk to, someone who truly understands because they have been there. They offer empathy, encouragement, and real-life perspective that cannot be replaced.

Cutting this funding would have a tremendous negative impact on the recovery system. It would weaken support networks, limit access to care, and place additional strain on already overwhelmed services. Most importantly, it would take us backward at a time when we should be moving forward. Investing in peer support is investing in recovery, dignity, and long-term success.

Best,
Angela Camardese