

Engrossed Senate Bill 5476

ESB 5476 responded to the *State v. Blake* decision in 2021 by addressing justice system responses and expansion of behavioral health services.

[Read the full bill text.](#)

Overview

Key elements of ESB 5476 include: the creation of the substance use recovery services advisory committee (SURSAC); establishing the Recovery Navigator Program (RNP); expanding the homeless outreach stabilization transition program (HOST); and expanding access to recovery support services for individuals who use drugs.

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee (SURSAC)

Per ESB 5476 Section 1, codified as RCW 71.24.546, the Health Care Authority (HCA) has convened a committee tasked with developing measures to assist persons with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in accessing outreach, treatment and recovery support services that are low barrier, person centered, informed by people with lived experience, and culturally and linguistically appropriate. The committee has been meeting monthly since December 2021.

[View past meeting recordings and upcoming meeting schedule.](#)

Advisory committee members

The SURSAC is comprised of members who have relevant background related to the needs of persons with substance use disorders, reflective of the community of individuals living with substance use disorders, as well as legislative representation and several local and national experts.

[View the SURSAC roster.](#)

Substance use recovery services (SURS) plan

Throughout 2022, the committee discussed and finalized 18 recommendations to improve outreach, treatment, and recovery support

services. Those recommendations were submitted to the governor's office and appropriate committees of the legislature in January 2023 for consideration during the 2023 legislative session. Many elements of the plan were adopted via Second Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5536 during the 2023 1st Special Session.

[Read the SURS Plan \(2022\), and annual SURSA Plan progress reports on the HCA Legislative Reports website.](#)

[Read 2E2SSB 5536.](#)

Recovery Navigator Program (RNP)

Per Section 2(1), Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations (BHASO) have established recovery navigator programs to deliver community-based outreach, intake, assessment, and connection to services for individuals with an SUD who encounter law enforcement and other first responders.

[Find the Recovery Navigator Program Fact Sheet \(2024\) on the HCA Legislative Relations webpage](#)

Per Section 2(2), the HCA has established uniform program standards for the BHASOs to follow in the design of their RNPs.

Per RCW 71.24.115 (2023), HCA must revise the RNP uniform program standards to achieve fidelity with core LEAD principles. The updated uniform program standards will be posted to the State v. Blake HCA webpage when revisions are finalized.

[Visit the State v. Blake HCA webpage.](#)

[Read the current Recovery Navigator Program Uniform Program Standards \(2021\).](#)

Budget for SFY 25

Per ESB 5187, Section 215 Proviso 86, the recovery navigator program has been allocated \$22 million from the general fund state appropriation for SFY25 to contract with the BHASOs and for related technical assistance related to the Recovery Navigator Program.

Per ESB 5187, Section 215 Proviso 100, \$1.4 million of the general fund state appropriation has been provided to BHASOs for SFY25 to develop regional recovery navigator program plans and to establish

positions focusing on regional planning to improve access to, and quality of, regional behavioral health services.

Budget for SFY 25

Clubhouse Services

- General State funds: \$3,114,000
- General Federal funds: \$2,701,000
- ESSB 5092 State: \$3,396,000
Federal GF match for Medicaid: \$8,100,000
- Opioid Abatement Settlement State: \$1,575,000

Short Term Housing Vouchers

- General State funds: \$500,000
- Opioid Abatement Settlement: \$3,956,000 for the 23-25 Biennium

SUD Family Navigator Program sites

- General State funds: \$650,000
- Opioid Abatement Settlement: \$250,000

SUD Family Navigator training

- Dedicated Cannabis Account: \$20,000
- Substance Use Prevention Treatment and Recovery Services block grant: \$80,000

Homeless Outreach Stabilization Transition (HOST) expansion

The Homeless Outreach Stabilization and Transition (HOST) program provides outreach-based treatment services to individuals with serious behavioral health challenges including substance use disorder (SUD). Multidisciplinary teams can provide behavioral health, medical, rehabilitative,

and peer services in the field to individuals who lack consistent access to these vital services.

[Read the HOST fact sheet.](#)

Budget for SFY 25

- State general fund: \$7,500,000

Other Supportive Programs

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Jails

ESB 5476 directed HCA to expand efforts to provide opioid use disorder medication in city, county, regional, and tribal jails. This funding was continued in the 23-25 biennial budget:

- General state fund: \$2,500,000 SFY25
- Opioid Abatement Settlement: \$5,000,000 for the biennium

Opioid Treatment Network enhancement

ESB 5476 directed HCA to increase contingency management resources for opioid treatment networks that are serving people with stimulant use disorder.

- General state fund: \$500,000

For more information

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Webpage: [State v. Blake and behavioral health expansion.](#)