



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 13, 2006**

**This week, Eureka will be hosting a two-day meeting of California's Mental Health accountability commission, which is entrusted with overseeing the use of Proposition 63 funds statewide. In addition to making decisions on key statewide issues, commissioners will be touring two local clinics.**

**The 16-member Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission was formed after the passage of Proposition 63 in November 2004. Among the members are Sen. Wes Chesbro, D-Arcata, whose influence has been key in shaping the commission's vision. Proposition 63 imposed a tax on income above \$1 million to help fund mental health services and provide prevention and early intervention.**

**In a two-day meeting at Eureka's Red Lion Inn this Thursday and Friday, Nov. 16 and 17, the commission will be asked to approve holding \$356 million in a "prudent reserve" for future years because the income source is so volatile. Commissioners also will listen to a presentation on the issue of co-occurring disorders.**

**Thursday evening commissioners and staff will tour United Indian Health Services to listen to and discuss the unique needs of tribal health services in California's mental health system. Thursday morning, commissioners will tour the Open Door clinic, 2412 Buhne St, to discuss rural mental health issues.**

**The commission's full agenda is attached.**

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