



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General

100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701
Telephone - (775) 684-1100
Fax - (775) 684-1108
Web - <http://ag.nv.gov>

RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE

Substance Use Response Group (SURG)

March 4, 2025

11:00 am

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Chair Kerns

1. Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish Quorum Cont.

Member	SURG Role	Subcommittee Role
Dr. Shayla Holmes	Rural Human Services (Lyon County)	Vice Chair
Dr. Terry Kerns	Attorney General Appointee	Chair
Nancy Lindler	SUD Treatment Provider	Member
Christine Payson	Sheriffs' & Chiefs' Assoc.	Member
Senator Jeff Stone	Member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader	Member

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

- Public comment will be received via Zoom by raising your hand or unmuting yourself when asked for public comment. Public comment shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person (this is a period devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments). No action may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to NRS 241.020.
- If you are dialing in from a telephone:
 - Dial 669-444-9171
 - When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 868 3331 1069
 - Please press *6 so the host can prompt you to unmute.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVE
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 RESPONSE
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Chair Kerns

4. 2025 SUBCOMMITTEE REORIENTATION

Chair Kerns

Attendance

- Since March 2024, attendance has been tracked and any member who goes below a 75 percent attendance rate for subcommittee or SURG working group meetings will be asked if they wish to continue serving.
- If you cannot attend a meeting, please email SEI staff at least four business days in advance to ensure a quorum or rescheduling of the meeting if necessary.

Recommendations Process

- Review survey in SurveyMonkey.
- The earlier recommendations are submitted, the more time we have to schedule presentations and to refine the recommendation. **Please submit your ideas as early as possible!**
- All subcommittee members are encouraged to submit at least one recommendation.
- Questions?

**5. REVIEW AB374 SECTION 10
REQUIREMENTS AND
SUBPOPULATIONS
ADDRESSED IN PRIOR
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chair Kerns

2024 Response Recommendations (Part 1)

1. Recommend research into implementation of statewide data sharing agreements with the Chief Data Officer of the State of Nevada and implementation of a cross-sector database housing multiple points of data across prevention, treatment, recovery, and criminal justice to include data such as controlled substance outlets (tobacco, cannabis, alcohol) to help tailor interventions geographically.
2. Support the collaborative proposal to the Fund for a Resilient Nevada to conduct wastewater sampling of high schools, college/university campuses and bars/nightclubs and use information gained to develop public health awareness programs, deploy targeted naloxone, increase provision of fentanyl test strips to targeted locations and to develop a plan for expanding high risk substance wastewater surveillance in Nevada and review the outcomes from this pilot program to identify if it and similar targeted programs may aid in the community response.

2024 Response Recommendations (Part 2)

3. Resolve the conflict between the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act and Drug Induced Homicide Law; immediate actions may include recommending community-level education using best practice guidelines, as well as education for law enforcement personnel, and exploring options for altering the Good Samaritan language to expand coverage to a greater population of individuals living with substance use disorder.
4. Review the operations and lessons learned from the Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force when that body's report is released in December 2024 and take this into account when supporting legislation to establish regional Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Committees allowing flexibility as to the makeup and practice and for the OFR to remain at the county or regional level, as needed, to effectively identify system gaps and innovative community-specific overdose prevention and intervention strategies in accordance with established best practices such as the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Overdose Fatality Review: A Practitioner's Guide to Implementation.

Funding to be provided through the Fund for Resilient Nevada and to support this recommendation, additional funding may need to be provided to the Coroner or Medical Examiner's office for personnel.

2024 Response Recommendations (Part 3)

5. Recommend state agencies under the legislative, judicial, and executive branches involved with deflection and diversion programs have a comprehensive definition of recidivism, and policies related to measuring and reporting recidivism.
6. Implement a voluntary program to install “drug take back bins” in retail pharmacies.

Legislative Language and Response Subcommittee Assignments Overview

- AB374 (2021 Session) Sec. 10, Subsection 1 is comprised of components A-Q. In 2021, guidance from Vice Chair Tolles, Dr. Woodard and Dr. Kerns determined subcommittee alignment.
- Please reference pages 35-55 in the 2024 Annual Report for more information.

Legislative Language and Response Subcommittee Assignments (Part 1)

- **(d)** Work to understand how residents of this State who are involved in the criminal justice system access supports for treatment of and recovery from substance use disorders at various points, including, without limitation, by **reviewing existing diversion, deflection, and reentry programs** for such persons.
- **(i)** Develop **strategies for local, state, and federal law enforcement and public health agencies to respond to and prevent overdoses** and plans for implementing those strategies.
- **(k)** Recommend strategies to **improve coordination between local, state, and federal law enforcement and public health agencies** to enhance the communication of timely and relevant information relating to substance use and reduce duplicative data collection and research.
- **(l)** **Evaluate current systems for sharing information between agencies regarding the trafficking and distribution of legal and illegal substances** which are associated with substance use disorders, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids, and stimulants.
- **(m)** **Study the effects of substance use disorders on the criminal justice system**, including, without limitation, law enforcement agencies and correctional institutions.
- **(n)** **Study the sources and manufacturers of substances which are associated with substance use disorders**, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids and stimulants, and methods and resources for preventing the manufacture, trafficking, and sale of such substances.
- **(o)** **Study the effectiveness of criminal and civil penalties at preventing the misuse of substances and substance use disorders and the manufacture, trafficking and sale of substances** which are associated with substance use disorders, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids, and stimulants.
- **(p)** **Evaluate the effects of substance use disorders on the economy of this State.**

Legislative Language and Cross-Cutting Assignments (Part 2)

(b) Assess evidence-based strategies for preventing substance use and intervening to stop substance use, including, without limitation, the use of heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids and stimulants. Such strategies must include, without limitation, strategies to: (1) Help persons at risk of a substance use disorder avoid developing a substance use disorder; (2) Discover potentially problematic substance use in a person and intervene before the person develops a substance use disorder;

(h) Examine qualitative and quantitative data to understand the risk factors that contribute to substance use and the rates of substance use, and substance use disorders, focusing on special populations.

(Continued on next slide)

Legislative Language and Cross-Cutting Assignments (Part 3)

(q) Study, evaluate and make recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services concerning the use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to address substance use disorders, with a focus on: (1) The use of the money described in subsections 1, 2 and 3 of section 10.5 of this act to supplement rather than supplant existing state or local spending; (2) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to support programs that use evidence-based interventions; (3) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to support programs for the prevention of substance use disorders in youth; (4) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to improve racial equity; and (5) Reporting by state and local agencies to the public concerning the funding of programs to address substance misuse and substance use disorders.

Number of Times Response Recommendations Aligned with Assigned AB374 Components

Number of Times Component Aligned with 2022-2024 Recommendations	AB374 Sec 10, Subsection Component
9	(i) Develop strategies for local, state, and federal law enforcement and public health agencies to respond to and prevent overdoses and plans for implementing those strategies.
5	(k) Recommend strategies to improve coordination between local, state, and federal law enforcement and public health agencies to enhance the communication of timely and relevant information relating to substance use and reduce duplicative data collection and research.
4	(d) Work to understand how residents of this State who are involved in the criminal justice system access supports for treatment of and recovery from substance use disorders at various points, including, without limitation, by reviewing existing diversion, deflection, and reentry programs for such persons.
4	(n) Study the sources and manufacturers of substances which are associated with substance use disorders , including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids and stimulants, and methods and resources for preventing the manufacture, trafficking, and sale of such substances.
3	(o) Study the effectiveness of criminal and civil penalties at preventing the misuse of substances and substance use disorders and the manufacture, trafficking and sale of substances which are associated with substance use disorders, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids, and stimulants.
3	(p) Evaluate the effects of substance use disorders on the economy of this State.
2	(m) Study the effects of substance use disorders on the criminal justice system , including, without limitation, law enforcement agencies and correctional institutions.
1	(l) Evaluate current systems for sharing information between agencies regarding the trafficking and distribution of legal and illegal substances which are associated with substance use disorders, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids, and stimulants.

Number of Recommendations Aligned with Response Subcommittee and Cross-Cutting Assignments

	D	I	K	L	M	N	O	P	<i>B</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>Q</i>
2022 Out of a total of four	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
2023 Out of a total of four	3	4	2	0	2	2	1	2	2	1	4
2024 Out of a total of six	1	4	3	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	2
Total Out of a total of ten	4	9	5	1	2	4	3	3	4	3	8

Bold Header = Response Subcommittee Assignment

Italic Header = Cross-cutting Assignment

The Response Subcommittee also aligned their 2022, 2023, and 2024 recommendations with the following AB374 Sec. 10, Subsection 1 components, not marked specifically as their assignments:

- 2022: i(1),
- 2023: a(1), e(2), f(2), j(2)

Number of Times All SURG Recommendations Aligned with Cross-Cutting AB374 Components

Number of Times Component Aligned with 2022-2024 SURG Recommendations <i>(Out of 56)</i>	AB374 Sec 10, Subsection Component
26	(b) Assess evidence-based strategies for preventing substance use and intervening to stop substance use , including, without limitation, the use of heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids and stimulants. Such strategies must include, without limitation, strategies to: (1) Help persons at risk of a substance use disorder avoid developing a substance use disorder; (2) Discover potentially problematic substance use in a person and intervene before the person develops a substance use disorder;
17	(q) Study, evaluate and make recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services concerning the use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to address substance use disorders , with a focus on: (1) The use of the money described in subsections 1, 2 and 3 of section 10.5 of this act to supplement rather than supplant existing state or local spending; (2) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to support programs that use evidence-based interventions; (3) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to support programs for the prevention of substance use disorders in youth; (4) The use of the money described in section 10.5 of this act to improve racial equity; and (5) Reporting by state and local agencies to the public concerning the funding of programs to address substance misuse and substance use disorders.
6	(h) Examine qualitative and quantitative data to understand the risk factors that contribute to substance use and the rates of substance use, and substance use disorders, focusing on special populations.

Number of Times Special Populations Impacted by Recommendations Across 2023 and 2024

Subcommittee	Veterans, Elderly Populations, & Youth	Persons who are involved in the criminal justice/juvenile systems	Pregnant women and the parents of dependent children	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons	People who inject drugs; (as revised)	Children who are involved with the child welfare system	Other populations overly impacted by substance use disorders
2023	11	10	7	7	13	5	18
<i>Prevention & Harm Reduction</i>	4	5	1	2	6	2	11
<i>Response</i>	3	3	2	2	4	1	4
<i>Treatment & Recovery</i>	4	2	4	3	3	2	3
2024	6	7	3	5	6	5	11
<i>Prevention & Harm Reduction</i>	3	2	0	2	2	2	6
<i>Response</i>	2	4	2	2	3	2	3
<i>Treatment & Recovery</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Total	17	17	10	12	19	10	29
<i>Total Response</i>	5	7	4	4	7	3	7

6. PLANNING FOR 2025 RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Chair Kerns

Planning for 2025 Response Subcommittee Meetings

- What would the Response Subcommittee like to accomplish this year?
- What is your vision for developing recommendations?
 - Should we focus on refining last year's recommendations or on creating new recommendations?
- Where do we want to be by October when the SURG will begin narrowing down the recommendations to include in the annual report?

Planning for 2025 Response Subcommittee Meetings, Cont.

Current Topic and Presenter Suggestions for Upcoming Response Meetings:

- Compassionate Overdose Response, staff will reach out to Dr. Karla Wagner
- Interdiction of Drugs, speaker TBD

Please email Subcommittee staff with any speaker recommendations.

Response Subcommittee Meeting Dates:

- May 6, June 3, August 5, September 2, November 4 from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

7. DISCUSS REPORT OUT FOR APRIL 9 SURG MEETING

Chair Kerns

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

- Public comment will be received via Zoom by raising your hand or unmuting yourself when asked for public comment. Public comment shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person (this is a period devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments). No action may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to NRS 241.020.
- If you are dialing in from a telephone:
 - Dial 669-444-9171
 - When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 868 3331 1069
 - Please press *6 so the host can prompt you to unmute.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, RESOURCES &
UPDATES AVAILABLE AT:**

[https://ag.nv.gov/About/Administration/Substance
Use Response Working Group \(SURG\)/](https://ag.nv.gov/About/Administration/Substance_Use_Response_Working_Group_(SURG)/)



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General

100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701
Telephone - (775) 684-1100
Fax - (775) 684-1108
Web - <http://ag.nv.gov>