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The Florida Behavioral Health Association Thanks Governor DeSantis for Signing House Bill 7021 into Law

Tallahassee, Fla. – The Florida Behavioral Health Association (FBHA) commends Governor Ron DeSantis for prioritizing the well-being of all Floridians by signing House Bill (HB) 7021 into law on Friday.

"Through the Governor's and First Lady Casey DeSantis' unwavering commitment to Floridians struggling with mental health and substance use disorders, community providers can continue to enhance their crisis services in Florida's communities, ultimately protecting individuals and families," said FBHA President and CEO Melanie Brown-Woofter.

"This is a huge win for Florida's community behavioral health providers, and we are grateful to Representative Patt Maney, Representative Traci Koster, and Senator Erin Grall for their leadership and for being champions for people experiencing a behavioral health crisis," **said Brown-Woofter.** "On behalf of the nearly 70 community mental health and substance use disorder providers and over half a million Floridians FBHA represents, we thank Governor DeSantis for signing HB 7021, which updates the Baker Act and invests \$50 million for mental health and substance disorder services."

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The Florida Behavioral Health Association (FBHA) is a non-profit organization that provides statewide leadership on behavioral health policy and practice. FBHA supports member agencies offering services to those in need of mental health and substance use disorder assistance and support. Its members include a broad range of provider types, ranging from small specialty organizations to comprehensive treatment organizations with multiple locations within a geographic region. For more information, please visit Floridabha.org