

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 16, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 7, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 28, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 1, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1852**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Yee  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Maze)**

January 12, 2006

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An act to amend Sections 128454 and 128456 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to mental health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1852, as amended, Yee. Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program.

Existing law requires the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to establish a nonprofit public benefit corporation known as the Health Professions Education Foundation to perform various duties with respect to implementing health professions scholarship and loan programs.

Existing law establishes the Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program, and requires the foundation to develop the program to provide grants to licensed mental health service providers, as defined, who provide direct patient care in a publicly funded facility or a mental health professional shortage area, as defined.

Existing law requires the foundation to solicit the advice of representatives of specified agencies and officials, including, but not limited to, the Board of Behavioral Sciences.

This bill would revise the definition of “licensed mental health care service provider” for this ~~purpose~~, *purpose to, among other things*, additionally include a registered psychologist, postdoctoral psychological assistant, postdoctoral psychology trainee employed in an exempt setting or employed pursuant to a State Department of Mental Health waiver, marriage and family therapist intern, and an associate clinical social worker, and would make a technical, nonsubstantive change. The bill would also specify that “licensed mental health service provider” includes a mental health service provider who is employed at a publicly funded mental health facility or a public or nonprofit private mental health facility that contracts with a county mental health entity or facility to provide mental health services.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 128454 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 128454. (a) There is hereby created the Licensed Mental
- 4 Health Service Provider Education Program within the Health
- 5 Professions Education Foundation.
- 6 (b) For purposes of this article, the following definitions shall
- 7 apply:
- 8 (1) “Licensed mental health service provider” means a
- 9 psychologist *licensed by the Board of Psychology*, registered
- 10 psychologist, postdoctoral psychological assistant, postdoctoral
- 11 psychology trainee employed in an exempt setting pursuant to
- 12 Section 2910 of the Business and Professions Code, or employed
- 13 pursuant to a State Department of Mental Health waiver pursuant

1 to Section 5751.2 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, marriage  
2 and family therapist, marriage and family therapist intern,  
3 licensed clinical social worker, and associate clinical social  
4 worker.

5 (2) “Mental health professional shortage area” means an area  
6 designated as such by the Health Resources and Services  
7 Administration (HRSA) of the United States Department of  
8 Health and Human Services.

9 (c) Commencing January 1, 2005, any licensed mental health  
10 service provider, including a mental health service provider who  
11 is employed at a publicly funded mental health facility or a  
12 public or nonprofit private mental health facility that contracts  
13 with a county mental health entity or facility to provide mental  
14 health services, who provides direct patient care in a publicly  
15 funded facility or a mental health professional shortage area may  
16 apply for grants under the program to reimburse his or her  
17 educational loans related to a career as a licensed mental health  
18 service provider.

19 (d) The Health Professions Education Foundation shall make  
20 recommendations to the director of the office concerning all of  
21 the following:

22 (1) A standard contractual agreement to be signed by the  
23 director and any licensed mental health service provider who is  
24 serving in a publicly funded facility or a mental health  
25 professional shortage area that would require the licensed mental  
26 health service provider who receives a grant under the program  
27 to work in the publicly funded facility or a mental health  
28 professional shortage area for at least one year.

29 (2) The maximum allowable total grant amount per individual  
30 licensed mental health service provider.

31 (3) The maximum allowable annual grant amount per  
32 individual licensed mental health service provider.

33 (e) The Health Professions Education Foundation shall  
34 develop the program, which shall comply with all of the  
35 following requirements:

36 (1) The total amount of grants under the program per  
37 individual licensed mental health service provider shall not  
38 exceed the amount of educational loans related to a career as a  
39 licensed mental health service provider incurred by that provider.

1 (2) The program shall keep the fees from the different licensed  
2 providers separate to ensure that all grants are funded by those  
3 fees collected from the corresponding licensed provider groups.

4 (3) A loan forgiveness grant may be provided in installments  
5 proportionate to the amount of the service obligation that has  
6 been completed.

7 (4) The number of persons who may be considered for the  
8 program shall be limited by the funds made available pursuant to  
9 Section 128458.

10 SEC. 2. Section 128456 of the Health and Safety Code is  
11 amended to read:

12 128456. In developing the program established pursuant to  
13 this article, the Health Professions Education Foundation shall  
14 solicit the advice of representatives of the Board of Behavioral  
15 Sciences, the Board of Psychology, the State Department of  
16 Mental Health, the California Mental Health Directors  
17 Association, the California Mental Health Planning Council,  
18 professional mental health care organizations, the California  
19 Healthcare Association, the Chancellor of the California  
20 Community Colleges, and the Chancellor of the California State  
21 University. The foundation shall solicit the advice of  
22 representatives who reflect the demographic, cultural, and  
23 linguistic diversity of the state.