

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2017

Introduced by Assembly Member McCarty

February 16, 2016

An act to add Part 3.3 (commencing with Section 5832) to Division 5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2017, as introduced, McCarty. College Mental Health Services Program.

Existing law, the Mental Health Services Act, an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, funds a system of county mental health plans for the provision of mental health services, as specified. The act provides that it may be amended by the Legislature by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of each house as long as the amendment is consistent with and furthers the intent of the act.

The act establishes the Mental Health Services Fund, continuously appropriated to and administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, to fund specified county mental health programs, including prevention and early intervention programs and programs implemented under the Adult and Older Adult Mental Health System of Care Act. The act authorizes the payment of administrative costs of the state from the fund in an amount not greater than 5% of the annual total deposited in the fund and otherwise specifies the distribution of moneys in the fund.

This bill would establish the College Mental Health Services Trust Account and would appropriate an unspecified amount annually to that

account from the Mental Health Services Fund, to be used by the department to create a grant program for public community colleges, colleges, and universities to improve access to mental health services on campus, as specified. The bill would require campuses that have been awarded grants annually to report on the use of grant funds.

By changing the funding structure approved by the voters, this bill would amend the Mental Health Services Act. The bill would state the finding of the Legislature that the measure is consistent with and furthers the purposes of the Mental Health Services Act.

Vote: 2/3. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares that this
2 measure is consistent with and furthers the purposes of the Mental
3 Health Services Act within the meaning of Section 18 of that act.

4 SEC. 2. Part 3.3 (commencing with Section 5832) is added to
5 Division 5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

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7 PART 3.3. COLLEGE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
8 PROGRAM
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10 5832. (a) There is hereby established in the State Treasury the
11 College Mental Health Services Trust Account to be used by the
12 State Department of Health Care Services to fund the grant program
13 established pursuant to this part.

14 (b) Notwithstanding Section 5892 or any other law, ____ dollars
15 (\$____) shall be transferred from the Mental Health Services Fund
16 into the College Mental Health Services Trust Account annually.

17 5832.1. (a) The department, in consultation with the California
18 Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), shall create a grant
19 program for public community colleges, colleges, and universities
20 to improve access to mental health services on campus. The
21 department and CalMHSA shall establish guidelines for grant
22 funding that shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

23 (1) The ability of the program to fund the matching component
24 required by subdivision (c).

25 (2) The ability of the campus, in partnership with the local
26 county, to establish direct linkages for students to community-based

1 mental health services for which the students' health coverage
2 makes them eligible, ensuring provider reimbursement.

3 (3) The ability to participate in evidence-based best practice
4 programs for mental health services improvements.

5 (4) The ability of the campus to serve underserved and
6 vulnerable populations, including, but not limited to, lesbian, gay,
7 bisexual, transgender, questioning, and allied (LGBTQA) persons,
8 victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse, and veterans.

9 (5) The ability of the campus to reduce racial disparities in
10 access to mental health services.

11 (b) Grants may be awarded to a campus in the California
12 Community College system, the California State University system,
13 or the University of California system. The scale of the program
14 shall determine the amount awarded, but in no case shall the
15 department award more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) per
16 campus, per application.

17 (c) Grants shall only be awarded to a campus that can show a
18 dollar-for-dollar match of funds from the campus.

19 (d) The department and CalMHSA may provide technical
20 assistance to smaller colleges and counties in the application
21 process to ensure equitable distribution of the grant award.

22 5832.2. (a) Community colleges and campuses in the
23 California State University system that have been awarded grants
24 pursuant to this part shall report annually to the Chancellor's Office
25 and campuses in the University of California system shall report
26 annually to the University of California Office of the President on
27 the use of grant funds. This report shall include, but not be limited
28 to, all of the following:

29 (1) How grant funds and matching revenues are being used.

30 (2) Available evaluation data, including outcomes of the campus
31 mental health programs funded pursuant to the grant program.

32 (3) Program information regarding services being offered and
33 the number of individuals being served.

34 (b) The Chancellor's Office and the University of California
35 Office of the President shall forward the reports of the campuses
36 required pursuant to subdivision (a), at one time annually, to the
37 department, CalMHSA, and the Legislature for evaluation of the
38 grant program.

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