

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 30, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

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 amended, 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 Account~~, would appropriate *transfer* an unspecified amount annually to that account from the Mental Health Services Fund, *and would appropriate those funds 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. *The bill would make other finding and declarations.*

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) 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 (b) *Students, faculty, health practitioners, and college*
- 5 *administrators are reporting increased rates of mental health*
- 6 *needs by students attending public colleges in California.*
- 7 (c) *One in four students have a diagnosable mental illness and*
- 8 *40 percent of students do not seek mental health when they need*
- 9 *it.*
- 10 (d) *Eight out of 10 people who experience psychosis have their*
- 11 *first episode between 15 and 30 years of age.*
- 12 (e) *The demand for mental health services by public college*
- 13 *students far outpaces the ability of colleges to provide them.*
- 14 *California public college campuses and higher education systems*
- 15 *do not meet national staffing standards for psychiatric services*
- 16 *and other mental health professionals.*
- 17 (f) *The lack of services directly impacts college students' success*
- 18 *and academic performance as well as their ability to develop*
- 19 *socially as productive members of society.*
- 20 (g) *The effects of untreated mental health needs are long lasting*
- 21 *and can include college students dropping out of school,*
- 22 *experiencing homelessness, and dying of suicide.*

1 (h) One in 10 college students has considered suicide and
2 suicide is the second leading cause of death among college
3 students, claiming more than 1,100 lives every year nationally.

4 (i) Research shows that for each dollar invested in student
5 prevention and early intervention mental health services, California
6 will see a return of at least six dollars (\$6) and up to eleven dollars
7 (\$11) as a result of more students graduating.

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

10
11 PART 3.3. COLLEGE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
12 PROGRAM

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14 5832. This part shall be known, and may be cited, as the
15 College Mental Health Services Program Act.

16 ~~5832.~~

17 5832.1. (a) There is hereby established in the State Treasury
18 the College Mental Health Services Trust ~~Account to be used by~~
19 ~~Account.~~ Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code,
20 moneys in the account are hereby continuously appropriated to
21 the State Department of Health Care Services to fund the grant
22 program established pursuant to this part.

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

26 ~~5832.1.~~

27 5832.2. (a) The department, in consultation with the California
28 Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), shall create a grant
29 program for public community colleges, colleges, and universities
30 to improve access to mental health services ~~on campus.~~ and early
31 identification or intervention programs. The department and
32 CalMHSA shall establish guidelines for grant funding that shall
33 include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

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

36 (2) The ability of the campus, in partnership with the local
37 county, to establish direct linkages for students to community-based
38 mental health services for which the students' health coverage
39 makes them eligible, ensuring provider reimbursement.

1 (3) The ability to participate in evidence-based *and community*
2 *defined* best practice programs for mental health services
3 improvements.

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

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

10 (6) *The ability of the campus to fund mental health stigma*
11 *reduction activities.*

12 (7) *The ability of the campus to provide employees and students*
13 *with education and training on early identification, intervention,*
14 *and referral of students with mental health needs.*

15 (b) Grants may be awarded to a ~~campus~~ *community college*
16 *district* in the California Community College system, the California
17 State University system, or the University of California system.
18 The scale of the program shall determine the amount awarded, but
19 in no case shall the department award more than five million dollars
20 (\$5,000,000) per campus, per application.

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

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

26 ~~5832.2.~~

27 5832.3. (a) Community colleges and campuses in the
28 California State University system that have been awarded grants
29 pursuant to this part shall report annually to the *respective*
30 Chancellor's Office and campuses in the University of California
31 system shall report annually to the University of California Office
32 of the President on the use of grant funds. This report shall include,
33 but not be limited to, all of the following:

34 (1) How grant funds and matching ~~revenues~~ *funds* are being
35 used.

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

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

1 (b) The Chancellor's—Office *offices* and the University of
2 California Office of the President shall forward the reports of the
3 campuses required pursuant to subdivision (a), at one time
4 annually, to the department, CalMHSa, and the Legislature for
5 evaluation of the grant program.

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