

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 16, 2016
AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2016
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2016
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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2017

Introduced by Assembly Member McCarty
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonta, Chang, Cristina Garcia,
Gonzalez, and Levine)
(Coauthors: Senators Hancock and Pan)

February 16, 2016

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

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. Existing law provides for the operation and administration of~~

various mental health programs at a statewide and county level, as specified.

~~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, until January 1, 2022, would establish the College Mental Health Services Trust Account, would, beginning July 1, 2017, transfer \$40,000,000 annually to that account from funding that would otherwise be allocated to Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Programs, and would continuously appropriate those funds to the department to create Account. *The bill would make moneys in the account available to the State Department of Health Care Services, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of creating a grant program for public community colleges, colleges, and universities to improve access to mental health services on-campus, those campuses, as specified. The bill would require campuses that have been awarded grants under these provisions to report annually on the use of those grant funds and to post that information on their Internet Web sites. The bill would also require the department to submit a report to the Legislature evaluating the impact of the program, as specified.*

~~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: $\frac{2}{3}$ -majority. Appropriation: yes-no. 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 all of the
- 2 following:

1 ~~(a) That this measure is consistent with and furthers the purposes~~
2 ~~of the Mental Health Services Act within the meaning of Section~~
3 ~~18 of that act.~~

4 ~~(b)~~

5 (a) Students, faculty, health practitioners, and college
6 administrators are reporting increased rates of mental health needs
7 by students attending public colleges in California.

8 ~~(c)~~

9 (b) One in four students has a diagnosable mental illness and
10 40 percent of students do not seek mental health *services* when
11 they need it.

12 ~~(d)~~

13 (c) Eight out of 10 people who experience psychosis have their
14 first episode between 15 and 30 years of age.

15 ~~(e)~~

16 (d) The demand for mental health services by public college
17 students far outpaces the ability of colleges to provide them.
18 California public college campuses and higher education systems
19 do not meet national staffing standards for psychiatric services
20 and other mental health professionals.

21 ~~(f)~~

22 (e) The lack of services directly impacts college students'
23 success and academic performance as well as their ability to
24 develop socially as productive members of society.

25 ~~(g)~~

26 (f) The effects of untreated mental health needs are long lasting
27 and can include college students dropping out of school,
28 experiencing homelessness, and dying of suicide.

29 ~~(h)~~

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

33 ~~(i)~~

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

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

1 PART 3.3. COLLEGE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
2 PROGRAM
3

4 5832. This part shall be known, and may be cited, as the
5 College Mental Health Services Program Act.

6 5832.1. ~~(a)~~ There is hereby established in the State Treasury
7 the College Mental Health Services Trust Account.
8 ~~Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, moneys~~
9 ~~in the account are hereby continuously appropriated~~ *Moneys in*
10 *the account shall be available, upon appropriation by the*
11 *Legislature, to the State Department of Health Care Services to*
12 *fund the grant program established pursuant to this part.*

13 ~~(b) Notwithstanding Section 5892 or any other law, beginning~~
14 ~~July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, forty million dollars~~
15 ~~(\$40,000,000) shall be transferred from funding that would~~
16 ~~otherwise be allocated to Mental Health Services Act Prevention~~
17 ~~and Early Intervention Programs into the College Mental Health~~
18 ~~Services Trust Account annually.~~

19 5832.2. (a) ~~The department, in collaboration with the California~~
20 ~~Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA);~~ *department* shall
21 create a grant program for public community colleges, colleges,
22 and universities, in collaboration with county behavioral health
23 departments, to improve access to mental health services and early
24 identification or intervention programs. ~~CalMHSA~~ *The department*
25 shall establish grant program guidelines and shall develop a request
26 for application (RFA). The RFA shall include, but not be limited
27 to, all of the following:

28 (1) Eligibility standards of applicants in order to qualify to be
29 considered for a grant award.

30 (2) Required program components to be included in the grant
31 application, which may include, but are not limited to:

32 (A) The ability of the program to meet the needs of students
33 that cannot be met through existing funds.

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

36 (C) 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.

1 (D) The ability of the campus to address direct services
2 including, but not limited to, increasing staff to student ratios and
3 decreasing wait times.

4 (E) The ability to participate in evidence-based and
5 community-defined best practice programs for mental health
6 services improvements.

7 (3) Preferred program components to be included in the grant
8 application, which may include, but are not limited to:

9 (A) The ability of the campus to serve underserved and
10 vulnerable populations.

11 (B) The ability of the campus, in partnership with the local
12 county, to establish direct linkages for students to community-based
13 mental health services for which reimbursement is available
14 through the students' health coverage.

15 (C) The ability of the campus to reduce racial disparities in
16 access to mental health services.

17 (D) The ability of the campus to fund mental health stigma
18 reduction activities.

19 (E) The ability of the campus to provide employees and students
20 with education and training on early identification, intervention,
21 and referral of students with mental health needs.

22 (F) The ability of the campus to screen students receiving other
23 health care services and provide linkages to services from the
24 appropriate mental health provider based on the health insurance
25 status of that student, for those students who are shown to have a
26 need for services.

27 (G) Evidence of an existing or planned partnership between the
28 campus and the county behavioral health department to address
29 complex mental health needs of students based on their health
30 insurance status and based on the extent to which there are students
31 whose needs cannot be met through their health plan, health
32 insurance, or Medi-Cal.

33 (H) Evidence of an existing or planned partnership between the
34 campus and local safety net providers to ensure linkages to primary
35 care and community-based mental health care, regardless of the
36 health insurance status of the student.

37 (4) Articulation of grant program goals and expected outcomes.

38 (5) Required reporting and evaluation standards to be met by
39 applicants that are selected for a grant award.

1 (6) Timelines and deadlines for grant applications and
2 anticipated funding award determinations.

3 (b) Colleges, in collaboration with their local county behavioral
4 health department, shall submit their grant application
5 ~~electronically to CalMHSA~~ *to the department* according to the
6 guidelines adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

7 (c) To the extent that an application follows the guidelines
8 adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) and specifically states what
9 activities shall be undertaken in accordance with those guidelines,
10 ~~CalMHSA~~ *the department* shall have the authority to approve grant
11 programs and ~~the department shall award funding in accordance~~
12 ~~with CalMHSA determinations.~~ *shall award funding.*

13 (d) Grants may be awarded to a community college district in
14 the California Community College system, a campus within the
15 California State University system, or a campus within the
16 University of California system, or a grouping of campuses within
17 the segments.

18 (e) Total available grant funding to colleges by segment shall
19 be proportional to the number of students served by that segment
20 but, in no case shall the department award more than five million
21 dollars (\$5,000,000) per campus, per application.

22 (f) Grants shall only be awarded to a campus that can show a
23 dollar-for-dollar match of funds or another match to be determined
24 by ~~CalMHSA~~, *the department*, in consultation with the applicant,
25 based on resources and existing mental health needs of students
26 from the campus. Matching funds can include in-kind funds,
27 student health fee funds after notification to the student association,
28 and other appropriate funds as determined by the department ~~in~~
29 ~~collaboration with CalMHSA~~ and pursuant to the guidelines
30 adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

31 (g) Grants shall be awarded to applicants on a competitive basis
32 based on their ability to meet the application standards and
33 prioritization of these standards as determined by ~~CalMHSA~~ *the*
34 *department* through the development of the RFA guidelines
35 adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

36 (h) Individual grant award allocations shall be expended over
37 at least one year but not to exceed three years, as determined by
38 ~~CalMHSA~~ *the department* through the grant award process.

39 (i) Administrative costs associated with administering an
40 approved program shall be limited to 5 percent of the total grant

1 amount for any grantee. Administrative costs incurred by the
2 department to administer this program shall be reimbursed from
3 the College Mental Health Services Trust Account, and shall not
4 exceed 5 percent of the total funds expended annually from the
5 account.

6 (j) The funding provided pursuant to this part shall not be used
7 to supplant existing campus, state, or county funds utilized to
8 provide mental health services.

9 (k) The department ~~and CalMHSA~~ shall provide technical
10 assistance to smaller colleges and county behavioral health
11 departments upon request during the application process to ensure
12 equitable distribution of the grant award.

13 5832.3. (a) Community colleges, campuses in the California
14 State University, and campuses in the University of California
15 system that have been awarded grants pursuant to this part shall
16 report annually on the use of grant funds to the department and
17 post the annual report on the use of the funds on their Internet Web
18 sites. This report shall include, but not be limited to, all of the
19 following:

- 20 (1) How grant funds and matching funds are being used.
- 21 (2) Available evaluation data, including outcomes of the campus
22 mental health programs funded pursuant to the grant program.
- 23 (3) Program information regarding services being offered and
24 the number of individuals being served.
- 25 (4) Plans for sustainability of mental health programming
26 beyond the funding from the College Mental Health Services Trust
27 Account.

28 (b) The campuses shall electronically submit the reports required
29 pursuant to subdivision (a), annually, to the appropriate
30 Chancellor's offices and the University of California Office of the
31 President.

32 5832.4. (a) The department shall develop an evaluation plan
33 to assess the impact of the program.

34 (b) The department, in compliance with Section 9795 of the
35 Government Code, shall submit a report to the Legislature by
36 February 1, 2021, evaluating the impact of the program and
37 providing recommendations for further implementation. The
38 department shall make the report available to the public and shall
39 post the report on its Internet Web site.

1 5832.5. This part shall remain in effect only until January 1,
2 2022, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
3 that is enacted before January 1, 2022, deletes or extends that date.

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