

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 1, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 31, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 14, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 28, 2016

SENATE BILL

No. 1466

Introduced by Senator Mitchell

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 14132.19 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1466, as amended, Mitchell. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program: trauma screening.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services, including early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment for any individual under 21 years of age who is covered under Medi-Cal consistent with the requirements under federal law. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid-Program *program* provisions.

Existing federal law provides that EPSDT services include periodic screening services, vision services, dental services, hearing services, and other necessary services to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services, whether or not the services are covered under the state plan. In addition to the required periodic screening services, existing federal law provides that Medicaid-eligible children are entitled to interperiodic screenings

in order to identify a suspected illness or condition not present or discovered during the periodic examination.

The bill would require, consistent with federal law, ~~those that~~ screening services under the EPSDT program ~~to~~ include screening for trauma, as defined by the bill. The bill would require that any child who is removed from the custody or care of his or her parent or legal guardian, as specified, be assessed by the county mental health plan for specialty mental health services. *The bill also would require the department, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, and others, to adopt, employ, and develop, as appropriate, tools and protocols for screening children for trauma and further would authorize the department to implement, interpret, or make specific the screening tools and protocols by means of all-county letters, plan letters, or plan or provider bulletins, as specified.*

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 14132.19 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:
3 14132.19. (a) Consistent with federal law, screening services
4 provided under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and
5 Treatment (EPSDT) benefit pursuant to subdivision (v) of Section
6 14132 shall include screening for trauma at all screenings.
7 (b) A child who is removed from the custody or care of his or
8 her parent or legal guardian pursuant to Section 300 and following,
9 or Section 727, shall be assessed by the county mental health plan
10 for specialty mental health services.
11 (c) "Trauma," as used in this section, is defined as any
12 physiological response to an event, series of events, or set of
13 circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically
14 or emotionally harmful or life threatening and that has lasting
15 adverse effects on the individual's functional and mental, physical,
16 social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.
17 (d) (1) *The department, in consultation with the State*
18 *Department of Social Services, behavioral health experts, child*
19 *welfare experts, and stakeholders, shall adopt, employ, and*
20 *develop, as appropriate, tools and protocols for the screening of*
21 *children for trauma, consistent with existing law and this section.*

1 (2) *Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section*
2 *11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code,*
3 *the department may implement, interpret, or make specific this*
4 *subdivision by means of all-county letters, plan letters, plan or*
5 *provider bulletins, or similar instructions, without taking*
6 *regulatory action.*

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