

**Senate Bill No. 1466**

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Passed the Senate August 29, 2016

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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Passed the Assembly August 23, 2016

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_M.

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*Private Secretary of the Governor*

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1466, 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 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, that screening services under the EPSDT program include screening for trauma, as defined by the bill and as specified. 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 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.

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

SECTION 1. Section 14132.19 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

14132.19. (a) Consistent with federal law, screening services provided under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit pursuant to subdivision (v) of Section 14132 shall include screening for trauma consistent with the protocols the department develops pursuant to subdivision (c).

(b) “Trauma,” as used in this section, means the result of an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual’s functioning and physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.

(c) (1) The department, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, behavioral health experts, child welfare experts, and stakeholders, shall adopt, employ, and develop, as appropriate, tools and protocols for the screening of children for trauma, consistent with existing law and this section.

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

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2016

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*Governor*