

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2618**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Rod Pacheco**

February 25, 2000

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An act to amend Section 1502.4 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to community care facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2618, as introduced, Rod Pacheco. Community care facilities.

Existing law generally regulates the licensure and operation of community care facilities, including those licensed as group homes for children.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to those provisions relating to community care facilities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1502.4 of the Health and Safety  
2 Code is amended to read:  
3 1502.4. (a) (1) A community care facility licensed as  
4 a group home for children pursuant to this chapter may  
5 accept for placement, and provide care and supervision  
6 to, a child assessed as seriously emotionally disturbed as  
7 long as the child does not need inpatient care in a licensed  
8 health facility.

1 (2) For the purpose of this chapter, the following  
2 definitions shall apply:

3 (A) “Inpatient care in a licensed health facility” means  
4 care and supervision at a level greater than incidental  
5 medical services as specified in Section 1507.

6 (B) “Seriously emotionally disturbed” means the same  
7 as paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 5600.3 of the  
8 Welfare and Institutions Code.

9 (b) If a child described in subdivision (a) is placed into  
10 a group home program classified at rate classification  
11 level 13 or rate classification level 14 pursuant to Section  
12 11462.01 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the  
13 licensee shall meet both of the following requirements:

14 (1) The licensee shall agree to accept, for placement  
15 into its group home program, only *those* children who  
16 have been assessed as seriously emotionally disturbed by  
17 either of the following:

18 (A) An interagency placement committee, as  
19 described in Section 4096 of the Welfare and Institutions  
20 Code or by a licensed mental health professional, as  
21 defined in Sections 629 to 633, inclusive, of Title 9 of the  
22 California Code of Regulations.

23 (B) A licensed mental health professional pursuant to  
24 paragraph (3) of subdivision (i), or subdivision (j), of  
25 Section 11462.01 of the Welfare and Institutions Code if  
26 the child is privately placed or only county funded.

27 (2) The program is certified by the State Department  
28 of Mental Health, pursuant to Section 4096.5 of the  
29 Welfare and Institutions Code, as a program that provides  
30 mental health treatment services for seriously  
31 emotionally disturbed children.

32 (c) The department shall not evaluate, or have any  
33 responsibility or liability with regard to the evaluation of,  
34 the mental health treatment services provided pursuant  
35 to this section and paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) of  
36 Section 11462.01 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

