

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 25, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 6, 2000

SENATE BILL

No. 1748

Introduced by Senator Perata

February 23, 2000

An act to add Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 99400) to Part 65 of the Education Code, and to add Section ~~4028~~–4053 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1748, as amended, Perata. Community mental health centers.

Existing law provides for the provision of educational programs through the California State University and the University of California.

This bill would require that California State University shall include in any program leading to a license or employment in a mental health profession elements to prepare graduates for employment in community mental health centers, and would request the Regents of the University of California to provide for the inclusion of those curriculum elements in any university program leading to a license or employment in a mental health profession.

Existing law requires the State Department of Mental Health to administer various mental health programs.

This bill would require the State Department of Mental Health to establish a program to provide grants for students

who attend postgraduate school to obtain professional degrees and who agree to work for a minimum period at a community health center following graduation.

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. Chapter 8 (commencing with Section
2 99400) is added to Part 65 of the Education Code, to read:

3

4 CHAPTER 8. COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
5 TRAINING CURRICULUM
6

7 99400. (a) The California State University shall
8 include in any program leading to a license or
9 employment in a mental health profession elements to
10 prepare graduates for employment as mental health
11 professionals, as defined in subdivision (c), as employees
12 of community mental health centers, as defined in
13 Section 5667 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

14 (b) The Regents of the University of California are
15 requested to provide for the inclusion of the curriculum
16 elements described in subdivision (a) in any university
17 program leading to a license or employment in a mental
18 health profession.

19 (c) For purposes of this section, “mental health
20 professional” means any person subject to the provisions
21 of any of the following chapters of Division 2 of the
22 Business and Professions Code:

- 23 (1) Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 2900).
- 24 (2) Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 4500).
- 25 (3) Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 4980).
- 26 (4) Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 4990).

27 SEC. 2. Section ~~4028~~ 4053 is added to the Welfare and
28 Institutions Code, to read:

29 ~~4028.~~—

30 4053. (a) The department shall establish a program
31 to provide grants of funds, upon appropriation, for
32 students who attend postgraduate school to obtain



1 professional degrees in mental health that would qualify
2 them to work as a mental health professional and who
3 agree to work for a minimum period of three years as an
4 employee of a community health center following
5 graduation.

6 *(b) Prior to making grants under subdivision (a), the*
7 *department shall determine both of the following:*

8 *(1) The level of demand for categories of licensed*
9 *mental health professionals in county mental health*
10 *programs.*

11 *(2) Those geographic areas that have the highest level*
12 *of vacancies for mental health professionals.*

13 *(c) The department shall give priority for grants*
14 *under this section to those students who meet the*
15 *following requirements:*

16 *(1) They are enrolled in educational programs leading*
17 *to licenses in the categories most in demand, as*
18 *determined pursuant to subdivision (b).*

19 *(2) They agree to become employed in mental health*
20 *programs with the greatest number of staff vacancies or*
21 *in geographic areas with the most vacancies for mental*
22 *health professionals.*

23 *(d) For purposes of this section, “mental health*
24 *program” means the same as the term is defined in*
25 *subdivision (a) of Section 99400 of the Education Code*
26 *and ‘mental health professional’ means the same as the*
27 *term is defined in subdivision (c) of Section 99400 of the*
28 *Education Code.*

