

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 916

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez

February 18, 2011

An act relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 916, as introduced, V. Manuel Pérez. Promotores: medically underserved communities: federal grants.

Existing law establishes training and certification programs for various healing arts professionals including, among others, nurses, midwives, occupational therapists, dietitians, and social workers.

This bill would require the State Department of Public Health to assess the grants to promote positive health behaviors and outcomes available pursuant to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for funding opportunities related to the use of promotores, as defined, in medically underserved communities, and to report on this assessment to the fiscal and health policy committees of the Legislature by April 1, 2012, with recommendations for attaining and maximizing federal funding.

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. (a) The State Department of Public Health shall
- 2 assess the grants to promote positive health behaviors and outcomes
- 3 available pursuant to Section 399V of the federal Patient Protection
- 4 and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) for funding

1 opportunities related to the use of promotores, also known as
2 community health workers, in medically underserved communities.
3 The department shall report on this assessment to the fiscal and
4 health policy committees of the Legislature by April 1, 2012, with
5 recommendations for attaining and maximizing federal funding.

6 (b) The assessment made by the department pursuant to
7 subdivision (a) shall rely upon past research about the efficacy of
8 promotores and the department may not conduct new research.

9 (c) For purposes of this section, “promotores” means promotores
10 de salud, also known as community health workers, peer leaders,
11 or health advocates, who serve as a bridge between the community
12 and the public health care system by providing health education,
13 health promotion, prevention, informational counseling and referral
14 information, as well as resources, in a manner that is culturally
15 and linguistically appropriate.

16 (d) The report to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall
17 be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
18 Code.