

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 22, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2000

SENATE BILL

No. 1770

Introduced by Senator Chesbro

February 23, 2000

An act to add Section 5600.8 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1770, as amended, Chesbro. Mental health: client and family member empowerment programs.

Existing law, the Bronzan-McCorquodale Act, provides for the organization and finance of community mental health services for the mentally disordered in every county through locally administered and locally controlled community mental health programs.

This bill would require, in any year in which funds are provided for this purpose in the annual Budget Act, the State Department of Mental Health, pursuant to a request-for-proposal process, to provide grants to county mental health departments for mental health client and family member empowerment programs that meet criteria specified in the bill.

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 Legislature finds and declares
2 all of the following:

3 (a) Persons with mental disabilities and their family
4 members make significant contributions to the
5 development *and delivery* of a high-quality and cohesive
6 mental health system in California.

7 (2) The delivery of appropriate mental health services
8 and supports to persons with mental disabilities,
9 *including services and supports that address the needs of*
10 *differing cultures, ages, and genders*, is improved by the
11 involvement of clients and family members in the
12 development of treatment and service plans.

13 (3) The effectiveness of mental health treatment and
14 services is enhanced when clients and family members
15 are afforded choices about methods of delivery.

16 ~~(4) The participation of clients and family members in~~
17 ~~the mental health system is improved through peer~~
18 ~~supports.~~

19 *(4) The recovery of clients in the mental health system*
20 *and the quality of life of these clients and their family*
21 *members is enhanced by peer and family support.*

22 (5) ~~Access~~ Education, training, and access to
23 information is necessary to ensure that clients and family
24 members participate in the mental health system to their
25 fullest capacity.

26 (6) *As part of their participation in the mental health*
27 *system, clients and family members should serve as*
28 *respected members of mental health boards and*
29 *commissions, making recommendations and developing*
30 *policy. In order to maximize their contributions to the*
31 *mental health community, these individuals must have*
32 *access to information and training.*

33 (7) *Empowerment activities for clients and family*
34 *members, including programs run by these individuals,*
35 *should be an integral part of the system of care in each*
36 *county.*

37 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to improve the
38 role and leadership of mental health system clients and



1 their family members in the development,
2 implementation, and oversight of mental health policies
3 in California, as well as the exercise of consumer choice
4 in the determination of mental health treatment and
5 service programs.

6 SEC. 2. Section 5600.8 is added to the Welfare and
7 Institutions Code, to read:

8 5600.8. (a) The department shall issue a request for
9 proposals in order to establish and expand empowerment
10 programs for mental health clients and their family
11 members by not later than ~~October~~ *September* 1 in any
12 year in which funds are provided in the annual Budget
13 Act for this purpose. The department shall make grants
14 to county mental health departments on the basis of
15 proposals meeting the criteria set forth in this section.

16 (b) *The department shall implement the requests for*
17 *proposals and award grants in consultation with a*
18 *working group of individuals with a stake in the mental*
19 *health system, including clients and family members. The*
20 *group shall consist of at least 30 percent clients and 30*
21 *percent family members.*

22 (c) *Proposals submitted pursuant to this section shall*
23 *describe how they will result in greater respect for client*
24 *and family member autonomy in the mental health*
25 *system as well as how they will increase the ability of*
26 *clients and family members to make informed decisions.*

27 (d) *Proposals submitted under this section shall*
28 *describe how clients and family members played a*
29 *substantive role in the development of these strategies.*

30 (e) *Proposals solicited pursuant to subdivision (a) may*
31 *shall be submitted by any county mental health*
32 *department, ~~and shall include all of the following:~~ in*
33 *partnership with local organizations run by clients or*
34 *family members, or both. Multiple counties may also*
35 *submit proposals in partnership with local organizations*
36 *run by clients or family members. Community-based*
37 *organizations led by clients and family members may*
38 *subcontract with the county to fulfill components of the*
39 *proposals. Proposals may include, but are not limited to,*
40 *any of the following:*



1 (1) A description of how the proposal will result in the
2 establishment, expansion, or improvement of training; *or*
3 *access to* information; and referral services for clients and
4 family members.

5 (2) A description of how the proposal will result in the
6 establishment, expansion, or improvement of the
7 *meaningful* role of clients and family members in local
8 policy development, implementation, and oversight
9 activities.

10 (3) A description of how the proposal will result in the
11 establishment, expansion, or improvement of the use of
12 clients and family members in staff positions within ~~the~~
13 ~~department.~~ *county departments or community-based*
14 *service agencies.*

15 (4) A description of how the proposal will result in the
16 establishment or expansion of self-help and other
17 client-run programs.

18 (5) A description of how the proposal will result in the
19 establishment of ~~family-to-family~~ *family-run educational*
20 *or support activities.*

21 ~~(6) A description of how the proposal will result in~~
22 ~~improved decisionmaking and choices for clients and~~
23 ~~family members. A description of how the proposal will~~
24 ~~result in services and supports that are appropriate to~~
25 ~~differing cultures, ages, and genders.~~

26 ~~(e) A proposal submitted pursuant to subdivision (b)~~
27 ~~shall describe how clients and family members played a~~
28 ~~substantive role in the development of the proposal.~~

29 *(f) In order to ensure the appropriate monitoring and*
30 *oversight occurs, the department, in consultation with*
31 *the working group, shall develop a process by which*
32 *grantees submit reports to the department. The*
33 *department shall use these reports to provide*
34 *information to the Legislature by April 1 of each year in*
35 *which programs are funded regarding the*
36 *implementation of client and family empowerment*
37 *programs.*

38 ~~(d)~~

39 (g) Proposals submitted pursuant to subdivision (b)
40 shall describe how the county will continue to implement



1 their client and family member empowerment plan after
2 the state grant funding authorized by this section is
3 terminated.

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