


MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 24, 2016
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Cherise Burns Central Services Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #14(a)(2)(A) – AB 2017 (McCarty, Hancock, Pan, Bonta, Garcia, Levine, Gonzalez) College Mental Health Services Program

Background:

This bill would have established the College Mental Health Services Trust Account and appropriate \$40,000,000 annually to that account funding that would otherwise be allocated to Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Programs. This bill would have continuously appropriated those funds to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to create a grant program for public community colleges, colleges, and universities to improve access to mental health services on campus. The bill would have required campuses that have been awarded grants to report annually on the use of grant funds and to post that information on their Internet Web sites, and required DHCS to report to the Legislature on the impact of the program.

At the May Board Meeting, the Board took a “Support” position on AB 2017.

On May 24, 2016, the Board sent a “Support” Letter to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, expressing the Board’s support for enhancing the provision of mental health services on state college campuses to address the unmet need for mental health services for college-aged students who often do not seek mental health services when needed.

On September 12, 2016, the Board sent a letter urging the Governor to “Sign” AB 2017.

On September 24, 2016, Governor Brown vetoed AB 2017, stating that the bill was “premature as it commits to a particular program structure without specifying the amount or source of funding. Without this pertinent information, I cannot give this matter full consideration, given the complexities of mental health funding.”

Status: On September 24, 2016, Governor Brown vetoed AB 2017.

Action Requested:

This is for informational purposes only.

Attachment A is the Governor’s veto message.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 24 2016

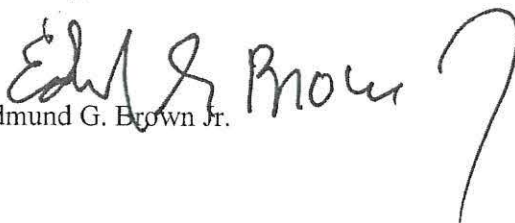
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2017 without my signature.

This bill requires the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to establish a grant program for mental health services at public colleges and universities, subject to a future appropriation.

While well-intentioned, the bill is premature as it commits to a particular program structure without specifying the amount or source of funding. Without this pertinent information, I cannot give this matter full consideration, given the complexities of mental health funding.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.