


MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 10, 2017
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Konnor Leitzell Central Services Student Assistant
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #4(b)(1)(B)(35) – SB 215 (Beall) Incarcerated Persons: Victim Advocates

Background:

This bill would require a state prison or a county jail to provide incarcerated persons with reasonable access to outside victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse, domestic violence, and suicide prevention by allowing incarcerated persons to call the toll-free hotlines of organizations that provide mental health crisis support. The bill would also specify that reasonable communication between an incarcerated person and those organizations is confidential and require that calls to the toll-free hotlines are free of cost to incarcerated persons.

Location: Senate Committee on Public Safety

Status: 04/04/17 Set for first hearing, cancelled at the request of Author

Action Requested:

No action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch SB 215 (Beall) to monitor the development of the bill's requirements and determine the impact of these requirements on access to mental health services for incarcerated persons.

Attachment A: SB 215 (Beall) Text

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SB-215 Incarcerated persons: victim advocates. (2017-2018)

SECTION 1. *Section 2605 is added to the Penal Code, to read:*

2605. *Each state prison and county jail shall provide incarcerated persons with reasonable access to outside victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse, domestic violence, and suicide prevention by allowing incarcerated persons to call the toll-free hotlines of organizations that provide mental health crisis support. The state prison or a county jail shall ensure that reasonable communication between an incarcerated person and those organizations is confidential and shall ensure that calls to the toll-free hotlines are free of cost to incarcerated persons.*

SEC. 2. *If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.*