


MEMORANDUM

DATE	August 24, 2017
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Konnor Leitzell Student Assistant
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #16(b)(2)(FF) – AB 1116 (Grayson) Peer Support and Crisis Referral Services Act.

Background:

This bill would create the Peer Support and Crisis Referral Services Act. The bill would, for purposes of the act, define a “peer support team” as a local critical incident response team composed of individuals from emergency services professions, emergency medical services, hospital staff, clergy, and educators who have completed a peer support training course developed by the Office of Emergency Services, the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee, or the Commission on Correctional Peace Officer Standards and Training. The bill would provide that a communication made by emergency service personnel to a peer support team member while the emergency service personnel receives peer support services is confidential and shall not be disclosed in a civil or administrative proceeding, except as specified. The bill would also provide that, except for an action for medical malpractice, a peer support team or a peer support team member providing peer support services is not liable for damages, as specified, relating to the team’s or team member’s act, error, or omission in performing peer support services, unless the act, error, or omission constitutes gross negligence or intentional misconduct. The bill would provide that a communication made by emergency service personnel to a crisis hotline or crisis referral service is confidential and shall not be disclosed in a civil or administrative proceeding, except as specified.

This bill would establish a privilege for a communication between an individual employed as emergency service personnel and a peer support team member or a person or volunteer staffing a crisis hotline or crisis referral service for emergency service personnel for the purposes of a noncriminal proceeding, as specified.

Location: Senate Committee on Appropriations Suspense File

Status: 8/21/17 Referred to suspense file.

Votes: 8/21/2017 Senate Committee on Appropriations (7-0-0)
7/11/2017 Senate Committee on Judiciary (7-0-0)
7/05/2017 Senate Committee on Health (9-0-0)

5/31/2017 Assembly Floor (77-0-3)
5/26/2017 Assembly Committee on Appropriations (17-0-0)
4/18/2017 Assembly Committee on Judiciary (11-0-0)
4/18/2017 Assembly Committee on Health (14-0-1)

Action Requested:

No Action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch AB 1116 to ensure the author maintains the recent amendment, which no longer expands the definition of psychotherapist.