

## Mental Health Legislation Year: 2016

- Federal Legislation:
  - Over two thousand (2,680) bill on mental health. All can be found at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/>
  - **Legislation to revamp the mental health system:**
    - **HR 2646** -- Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2015: The rumor that the House of Representatives are going to wait on the Senate's bill <http://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/273231-bipartisan-mental-health-bill-advances-in-senate> to pass the Senate. The rumor is that the House of Representatives will delay action until a Senate bill is approved.  
Article: Despite bipartisan support, mental health reform bill could be derailed <http://newsok.com/article/feed/994639>
  - Legislation to reduce female veterans suicide prevention:
    - **S. 2487** Female Veteran Suicide Prevention Act (Boxer) <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/s2487/text>
    - **H.R.2915** - Female Veteran Suicide Prevention Act (Brownley) <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2915?resultIndex=28>
- California State Legislation:
  - Over two thousand (2,157) bills on mental health. All depending bills can be found at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
  - Hospital related legislation:
    - **AB 1300**: Mental health: involuntary commitment [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB1300](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1300) would change hospital detention requirements.
    - **AB 2743**: Psychiatric Bed Registry [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB2743](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB2743) Requires the Department of Public Health to establish and administer an Internet Web site-base electronic registry, known as the acute psychiatric bed registry, to collect, aggregate, and display information regarding the availability of acute psychiatric beds in certain health facilities to facilitate the designation of facilities for the temporary detention and treatment of individuals who meet criteria for temporary detention.
    - **AB59**: Mental Health Services: Assisted Outpatient Treatment [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB59](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB59) Extends the operation of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002 that grants each county the authority to offer certain assisted outpatient treatment services for their residents by adoption of a resolution or through the county budget process and by making a finding that no mental health program may be reduced as a

result of implementation; repeals a related evaluation reporting requirement. (Sometimes this legislation is referred to as Laura's Law)

- School-based mental health legislation:
  - Senator Beall is proposing two pieces of legislation that are still in the formative stages. They are :
    - **SB 1113** encourages school districts to form partnerships with counties to deliver mental health services to children. It provides additional Prop 63 growth funds and increase flexibility of existing AB 114 fund to schools that opt-in to the partnership. The goal is to draw down additional EPSDT funds in an effort to serve more children.
    - The other bill, **SB 884**, is to increase transparency and documentation of mental health services provided by school districts. SB 884 goal is to increase transparency via improved documentation and monitoring and more effective notification to parents.
  - **AB 2246 – Pupil Suicide Prevention Policy** – Addresses the epidemic of youth suicide by requiring school districts to adopt policies to address suicide prevention and the needs of special high risk students.  
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB2246](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB2246)
  - Reestablish Early Mental Health Initiative (EMHI), which promoted mental health for K-3 graders, program that was discontinued in 2012
    - **AB 1644** School-based early mental health intervention and prevention services  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB1644](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1644)
  - **AB1576 Pupil Health: School-Based Mental Health Services**  
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB1576](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1576) Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would utilize school-based mental health services to address the mental health needs of children in the state.
  - California Senate Bill **SB 276: Medi-Cal: local educational agencies**  
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB276](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB276)

This bill would require the department to seek federal financial participation for covered services that are provided by an LEA to a child who is an eligible Medi-Cal beneficiary regardless of whether the child has an IEP or an IFSP, or whether those same services are provided at no charge to the beneficiary or to the community at large, if the LEA takes all reasonable measures to ascertain and pursue claims for payment of covered services against legally liable 3rd parties. The bill would require a legally liable 3rd party to either reimburse the claim or issue a notice of denial of noncoverage of services or benefits if the legally liable 3rd party receives a claim for payment of covered services submitted by an LEA. The bill would authorize an LEA to bill the Medi-Cal program if there is no response to a claim for payment of covered

services submitted to a legally liable 3rd party within 45 days, and would require the LEA to retain a copy of the claim submitted to the legally liable 3rd party for a period of 3 years. The bill would expand the definition of an LEA to include the governing body of a charter school. The bill would provide that these provisions shall not be implemented until the department obtains necessary federal approvals.

- California Senate Bill **SB 118**: School-Based Health and Education Partnership Program (Liu) <http://openstates.org/ca/bills/20152016/SB118/>

This bill would rename the program the School-Based Health and Education Partnership Program. The bill would instead provide funding for the expansion and renovation of existing school health centers. The bill would change the amount of the sustainability grants that are available pursuant to the program to between \$50,000 and \$100,000, but would make those grants available on a one-time basis and would revise the purposes for which they may be used. The bill would also authorize population health grants in amounts between \$50,000 and \$125,000 for a funding period of up to 3 years, as specified. The bill would authorize school health centers to provide alcohol and substance abuse assessments, screening, and services.

- California Senate Bill **SB 123**: Report: School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities program (Lieu) [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB123](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB123)

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to review and prepare specific recommendations relative to the administration and oversight of the School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities program. The bill would require the Superintendent to submit a report containing the specific recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor by July 1, 2016, and would require the report to include, but not necessarily be limited to, an evaluation of specified entities, administrative structures, and information.

- Data Tracking:

- **SB 877** Reporting and tracking of violent deaths [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB877](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB877) This legislation makes California a participant in a national program that identifies the violent causes of death, including suicides.