

## MCHAP – Bills of Interest

March 5, 2021

These are bills that may be of interest to MCHAP members. Inclusion on this list does not indicate support or endorsement by MCHAP or any other entity or organization.

### [AB 4](#)

#### [Arambula D](#)

##### **Medi-Cal: eligibility.**

**Location:** 1/11/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Would, effective January 1, 2022, extend eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal benefits to anyone regardless of age, and who is otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their immigration status, pursuant to an eligibility and enrollment plan. The bill would delete the specified provisions regarding individuals who are under 25 years of age or 65 years of age or older and delaying implementation until the director makes the determination described above. The bill would require the eligibility and enrollment plan to ensure that an individual maintains continuity of care with respect to their primary care provider, as prescribed, would provide that an individual is not limited in their ability to select a different health care provider or Medi-Cal managed care health plan, and would require the department to provide monthly updates to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on the status of the implementation of these provisions

### [AB 32](#)

#### [Aguiar-Curry D](#)

##### **Telehealth.**

**Location:** 1/11/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Current law requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, to specify that coverage is provided for health care services appropriately delivered through telehealth on the same basis and to the same extent as in-person diagnosis, consultation, or treatment. Current law exempts Medi-Cal managed care plans that contract with the State Department of Health Care Services under the Medi-Cal program from these provisions, and generally exempts county

organized health systems that provide services under the Medi-Cal program from Knox-Keene. This bill would delete the above-described references to contracts issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, would require these provisions to apply to the plan or insurer's contracted entity, as specified, and would delete the exemption for Medi-Cal managed care plans. The bill would subject county organized health systems, and their subcontractors, that provide services under the Medi-Cal program to the above-described Knox-Keene requirements relative to telehealth. The bill would authorize a provider to enroll or recertify an individual in Medi-Cal programs through telehealth and other forms of virtual communication, as specified.

**AB 46**

**Rivas, Luz D**

**California Youth Empowerment Act.**

**Location:** 1/11/2021-A. A. & A.R.

**Summary:** Would create the California Youth Empowerment Act to address, among other issues, the growing need to engage youth directly with policymakers. The bill would establish the California Youth Empowerment Commission in state government consisting of 25 voting commissioners between 14 and 25 years of age and meeting specified requirements, with 21 members appointed by the Governor, 2 at-large members appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and 2 at-large members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, along with several ex officio, nonvoting members from various geographic regions of the state. The bill would establish the commission to be advisory in nature, for the main purpose of providing meaningful opportunities for civic engagement to improve the quality of life for California's disconnected and disadvantaged youth.

**AB 58**

**Salas D**

**Pupil health: suicide prevention policies and training: school-based health programs: pilot program.**

**Location:** 1/11/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would require a local educational agency, on or before June 1, 2022, to review and update its policy on pupil suicide prevention, and revise its training materials, to

incorporate best practices identified by the department in the department's model policy. The bill would require a local educational agency, commencing with the 2022–23 school year, to provide suicide awareness and prevention training, at the beginning of each school year, to teachers of pupils in all of the grades served by the local educational agency. By imposing additional duties on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**AB 77**

**Petrie-Norris D**

**Substance use disorder treatment services.**

**Location:** 12/7/2020-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Current law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid program provisions. Current law provides for various benefits under the Medi-Cal program, including substance use disorder treatment and mental health services that are delivered through the Drug Medi-Cal Treatment Program, the Drug Medi-Cal organized delivery system, and the Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services Program. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact Jarrod's Law, a licensure program for inpatient and outpatient programs providing substance use disorder treatment services, under the administration of the department.

**AB 126**

**Garcia, Eduardo D**

**Special education programs: Family Empowerment Centers on Disability.**

**Location:** 1/11/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Department of Education to award grants for the establishment of Family Empowerment Centers on Disability in 32 regions in the state to provide training and services to children and young adults with disabilities and their families. Current law establishes a minimum base rate of \$150,000 for each center awarded a grant and requires a center that receives a grant to complete specified actions related to providing that training and those

services. Current law establishes a Family Empowerment and Disability Council composed of the executive directors of the centers and certain other members, establishes a base amount of \$150,000 to be made available annually to the council, and requires the council to, among other actions, develop a uniform tracking and data collection system to be used by each center. This bill would revise and recast the provisions related to Family Empowerment Centers on Disability, including requiring the department to give priority to grant applicants in those of the 32 regions in the state that do not have a center, increasing the minimum base rate for each center awarded a grant from \$150,000 to \$237,000 commencing with the start of the fiscal year after a center has been established in each of the 32 regions, and, commencing with the 2024–25 fiscal year, providing for an annual cost-of-living adjustment of the grant amount, as specified.

**AB 226**

**Ramos D**

**Children’s crisis psychiatric residential treatment facilities.**

**Location:** 1/28/2021-A. HUM. S.

**Summary:** Would reclassify children’s crisis residential programs as children’s crisis psychiatric residential treatment facilities, and would transfer responsibility for licensing these facilities to the State Department of Health Care Services, contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act for these purposes. The bill would define “children’s crisis psychiatric residential treatment facility” to mean a licensed residential facility operated by a public agency or private organization that provides the psychiatric services, as prescribed under the Medicaid regulations, to individuals under 21 years of age, in an inpatient setting.

**AB 234**

**Ramos D**

**Office of Suicide Prevention**

**Location:** 1/28/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the State Department of Public Health to establish the Office of Suicide Prevention within the department, and requires the office to perform specified duties, including providing information and technical assistance to statewide and regional partners regarding best

practices on suicide prevention policies and programs and reporting on progress to reduce rates of suicide, and authorize the office to apply for and use federal, state, and foundation grants. This bill would remove the limitation that, should the office be established, all duties and responsibilities of the office be carried out using existing staff and resources.

## **AB 285**

### **Holden D**

**State Department of Education: state school nurse consultant.**

**Location:** 1/28/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education to appoint a state school nurse consultant to be housed within the department. The bill would require the state school nurse consultant to be a school nurse credentialed by the commission, as specified, who has a minimum of 5 years of experience in school health program management. The bill would require the state school nurse consultant to work with school districts and school nurses to promote quality school nursing services and school health programs that address the broad health needs of pupils, among other responsibilities. The bill would require the state school nurse consultant to annually report to the Governor and the Legislature a summary of the year's activities and specific recommendations, as provided.

## **AB 309**

### **Gabriel D**

**Pupil mental health: model referral protocols.**

**Location:** 2/12/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education to develop model referral protocols, as provided, for addressing pupil mental health concerns. The bill would require the department to consult with various entities in developing the protocols, including current classroom teachers and administrators. The bill would require the department to post the model referral protocols on its internet website. The bill would make these provisions contingent upon funds being appropriated for its purpose in the annual Budget Act or other legislation, or state, federal, or private funds being allocated for this purpose.

**AB 382**

**Kamlager D**

**Whole Child Model program.**

**Location:** 2/12/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the State Department of Health Care Services to establish a Whole Child Model (WCM) program, under which managed care plans served by a county organized health system or Regional Health Authority in designated counties provide CCS services to Medi-Cal eligible CCS children and youth. Current law requires the department to establish a statewide WCM program stakeholder advisory group that includes specified persons, such as CCS case managers, to consult with that advisory group on the implementation of the WCM, and to consider the advisory group's recommendations on prescribed matters. Existing law terminates the advisory group on December 31, 2021. This bill would instead terminate the advisory group on December 31, 2023.

**AB 552**

**Quirk-Silva D**

**Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnership Program.**

**Location:** 2/18/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would establish the Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnership Program to provide prevention and early intervention for, and access to, behavioral health services for pupils. The bill would authorize a county behavioral health agency and the governing board or governing body of a local educational agency to agree to collaborate on and implement an integrated school-based behavioral health partnership program, to develop a memorandum of understanding outlining the requirements for the partnership program, and to enter into a contract for mental health or substance use disorder services.

**AB 563**

**Berman D**

**School-based health programs.**

**Location:** 2/18/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education to, no later than July 1, 2022, establish an Office of School-Based Health Programs for the purpose of administering

current health-related programs under the purview of the State Department of Education and advising it on issues related to the delivery of school-based Medi-Cal services in the state. The bill would require the office to, among other things, provide technical assistance, outreach, and informational materials to LEAs on allowable services and on the submission of claims.

**AB 573**

**Carrillo D**

**Youth Mental Health Boards.**

**Location:** 2/18/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Would establish the California Youth Mental Health Board (state board) within the California Health and Human Services Agency to advise the Governor and Legislature on the challenges facing youth with mental health needs and determine opportunities for improvement. The state board would be comprised of 15 members who are between 15 and 23 years of age, appointed as specified, at least half of whom are youth mental health consumers who are receiving, or have received, mental health services, or siblings or immediate family members of mental health consumers. The bill would specify the powers and duties of the state board, including reviewing program performance in the delivery of mental health and substance use disorder services for youth.

**AB 586**

**O'Donnell D**

**Pupil health: mental health services: funding.**

**Location:** 2/11/2021-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would develop a two-year grant program to assist local educational agencies in building infrastructure and partnerships to secure ongoing federal Medi-Cal funding for mental health services, as provided. The bill would make various findings and declarations regarding pupil mental health.

**AB 733**

**Chiu D**

**Dental hygienists: registered dental hygienist in alternative practice.**

**Location:** 2/16/2021-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would make a statement of legislative intent to enact legislation that would expand access to oral healthcare

for children enrolled in Medi-Cal and pregnant people by allowing registered dental hygienists in alternative practice to partner with medical professionals in medical settings to provide fluoride treatments and oral health education and to coordinate care with dental providers and the dental care system.

**AB 748**

**Carrillo D**

**Pupil mental health: mental health assistance posters.**

**Location:** 2/25/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would require, on or before the start of the 2022–23 school year, each schoolsite in a school district, county office of education, or charter school, serving pupils in any of grades 6 to 12, inclusive, to create a poster that identifies approaches and shares resources regarding pupil mental health. The bill would require the poster to be prominently and conspicuously displayed in each bathroom and locker room at the schoolsite, as provided. By imposing additional duties on school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**AB 791**

**Aguiar- Curry D**

**Childcare: trauma-informed childcare training.**

**Location:** 2/25/2021-A. HUM. S.

**Summary:** The California Child Day Care Facilities Act generally requires the State Department of Social Services to license, inspect, and regulate various types of child daycare facilities, defined to include, among others, family daycare homes and daycare centers. The act generally requires licensees and certain employees of licensees to complete specified education and training requirements, including, among others, preventive health practices and pediatric first aid. Willful or repeated violation of the act is a crime. This bill would encourage a licensee under the act and each employee of a licensee to complete trauma-informed childcare training.

**AB 940**

**McCarty D**

**College Mental Health Services Program.**

**Location:** 3/4/2021-A. HEALTH



**Summary:** Would amend Proposition 63 by appropriating an unspecified amount annually from the administrative account of the Mental Health Services Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of California, the Board of Trustees of the California State University, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as specified, to implement the College Mental Health Services Program. The bill would require those funds to be used for the purpose of increasing campus student mental health services and mental health-related education and training. The bill would require campuses that participate in the program to report annually on the use of those grant funds and to post that information on their internet websites.

**AB 1046** **Rubio, Blanca D**

**Nurse-Family Partnership program.**

**Location:** 3/4/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Would require the California Health and Human Services Agency to consult with specified stakeholders from diverse geographical regions of the state to identify mechanisms to improve the state and counties' ability to effectively draw down Medi-Cal funding for evidence-based maternal-infant and early childhood home visiting encounters. The bill would require the agency to consider specified factors in identifying benefit authorities and scope of coverage for activities and services delivered by covered providers in fidelity with model requirements for evidence-based maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting programs.

**AB 1051** **Bennett D**

**Medi-Cal: specialty mental health services: foster youth.**

**Location:** 3/4/2021-A. HUM. S.

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Department of Health Care Services to issue policy guidance concerning the conditions for, and exceptions to, presumptive transfer of responsibility for providing or arranging for specialty mental health services to a foster youth from the county of original jurisdiction to the county in which the foster youth resides, as prescribed. This bill would make those provisions for presumptive transfer inapplicable to a foster youth or probation-involved youth placed in a group home or a short-term

residential therapeutic program (STRTP) outside of their county of original jurisdiction, as specified.

**AB 1117** **Wicks D**

**Pupil support services: Healthy Start: Toxic Stress and Trauma Resiliency for Children Program.**

**Location:** 3/4/2021-A. ED.

**Summary:** Would establish the Healthy Start: Toxic Stress and Trauma Resiliency for Children Program, under which the Superintendent would be required to award grants to qualifying entities, defined to include schools, local educational agencies, and other entities that meet specified criteria, to pay the costs of planning and operating programs that provide support services to pupils and their families, as prescribed. The bill would require grants to be awarded for no more than \$500,000 each and to be matched by the grantee with \$1 for each \$2 awarded, as specified.

**AB 1264** **Aguiar- Curry D**

**Project ECHO (registered trademark) Grant Program.**

**Location:** 3/4/2021-A. HEALTH

**Summary:** Would require the California Health and Human Services Agency, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish, develop, implement, and administer the Project ECHO (registered trademark) Grant Program. Under the grant program, the bill would require participating children's hospitals to establish yearlong pediatric behavioral health teleECHO (trademark) clinics for specified individuals, including primary care clinicians and educators, to help them develop expertise and tools to better serve the youth that they work with by addressing their mental health needs stemming from the coronavirus pandemic.

**SB 14** **Portantino D**

**Pupil health: school employee and pupil training: excused absences: youth mental and behavioral health.**

**Location:** 3/10/2021 9 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE EDUCATION, LEYVA, Chair

**Summary:** Current law, notwithstanding the requirement that each person between 6 and 18 years of age who is not

otherwise exempted is subject to compulsory full-time education, requires a pupil to be excused from school for specified types of absences, including, among others, if the absence was due to the pupil's illness. This bill would include as another type of required excused absence an absence that is for the benefit of the mental or behavioral health of the pupil. To the extent this bill would impose additional duties on local educational entities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

## **SB 17**

### **Pan D**

**Public health crisis: racism.**

**Location:** 12/7/2020-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Current law requires the Office of Health Equity to develop department-wide plans to close the gaps in health status and access to care among the state's diverse racial and ethnic communities, women, persons with disabilities, and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning communities, as specified. Current law requires the office to work with the Health in All Policies Task Force to assist state agencies and departments in developing policies, systems, programs, and environmental change strategies that have population health impacts by, among other things, prioritizing building cross-sectoral partnerships within and across departments and agencies to change policies and practices to advance health equity. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require the department, in collaboration with the Health in All Policies Program, the Office of Health Equity, and other relevant departments, agencies, and stakeholders, to address racism as a public health crisis.

## **SB 217**

### **Dahle R**

**Comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education.**

**Location:** 3/10/2021 9 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE EDUCATION, LEYVA, Chair

**Summary:** The California Healthy Youth Act requires school districts, defined to include county boards of education, county superintendents of schools, the California School for the Deaf, the California School for the Blind, and, commencing with the

2019–20 school year, charter schools, to ensure that all pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education, as specified. The act authorizes a school district to provide that education earlier than grade 7 with age-appropriate and medically accurate information. The act requires each school district to notify parents and guardians of pupils about its plan to provide sexual health education and HIV prevention instruction for the upcoming school year and to inform them, among other things, that the written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education are available for inspection. This bill would require the above-described notice to parents and guardians of pupils and the written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education to be translated if certain conditions are met, as specified.

#### **SB 224**

#### **Portantino D**

**Pupil instruction: mental health education.**

**Location:** 3/10/2021 9 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE EDUCATION, LEYVA, Chair

**Summary:** Would require each school district to ensure that all pupils in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, receive medically accurate, age-appropriate mental health education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses at least once in elementary school, at least once in junior high school or middle school, as applicable, and at least once in high school. The bill would require that instruction to include, among other things, reasonably designed instruction on the overarching themes and core principles of mental health. The bill would require that instruction and related materials to, among other things, be appropriate for use with pupils of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, pupils with disabilities, and English learners.

#### **SB 229**

#### **Dahle R**

**Pupil health: mental health staff.**

**Location:** 1/19/2021-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Would express the intent of the Legislature in the annual Budget Act each fiscal year to provide \$500,000,000, on an equal per-pupil basis, to school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools for increasing mental health staff, specifically school psychologists and counselors, at each schoolsite to increase access for youth mental health services.

**SB 367**

**Hurtado D**

**Student safety: opioid overdose reversal medication.**

**Location:** 3/17/2021 9 a.m. - Senate Chamber SENATE EDUCATION, LEYVA, Chair

**Summary:** Would require the governing board of each community college district and the Trustees of the California State University, in collaboration with campus-based and community-based recovery advocacy organizations, to additionally provide, as part of established campus orientations, educational and preventive information provided by the State Department of Public Health about opioid overdose and the use and location of opioid overdose reversal medication to students at all campuses of their respective segments. The bill would require the governing board of each community college district and the Trustees of the California State University to require that all campuses of their respective segments maintain nasal spray dosages of opioid overdose reversal medication in all first-aid kits maintained at each campus.

**SB 428**

**Hurtado D**

**Health care coverage: adverse childhood experiences screenings.**

**Location:** 2/25/2021-S. HEALTH

**Summary:** Would require a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022, to provide coverage for adverse childhood experiences screenings. Because a willful violation of these provisions by a health care service plan would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**SB 508**

**Stern D**

**Mental health coverage: school- based services.**

**Location:** 2/25/2021-S. HEALTH

**Summary:** Current law provides that specified services, including targeted case management services for children with an individual education plan or an individualized family service plan, provided by local educational agencies (LEAs), are covered Medi-Cal benefits, and authorizes an LEA to bill for those services. Existing law requires the department to perform various activities with respect to the billing option for services provided by LEAs. Current law authorizes a school district to require the parent or legal guardian of a pupil to keep current at the pupil's school of attendance certain emergency information. This bill would authorize an LEA to have an appropriate mental health professional provide brief initial interventions at a school campus when necessary for all referred pupils, including pupils with a health care service plan, health insurance, or coverage through a Medi-Cal managed care plan, but not those covered by a county mental health plan.

**SB 525**

**Grove R**

**School closures: mental health effects.**

**Location:** 2/17/2021-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Public Health to conduct an annual study on the mental health effects of school closures on pupils in years when a state or local emergency declaration results in school closures. The bill would require the department to confer with the State Department of Education, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, and the University of California on the design on the study. The bill would require the department to provide quarterly updates on the study's progress by posting an update on its internet website.

**SB 562**

**Portantino D**

**Health care coverage: pervasive developmental disorders or autism.**

**Location:** 3/3/2021-S. HEALTH

**Summary:** Current law requires a health care service plan contract or a health insurance policy to provide coverage for behavioral health treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism. Current law defines "behavioral health

treatment” for these purposes to mean professional services and treatment programs, including applied behavior analysis and evidence-based behavior intervention programs that meet specified criteria. This bill would modify that definition to mean professional services and treatment programs based on behavioral, developmental, relationship-based, or other evidence-based models, including applied behavior analysis and other evidence-based behavior intervention programs that meet the specified criteria.

**SB 682**

**Rubio D**

**Childhood chronic health conditions: racial disparities.**

**Location:** 2/19/2021-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require the California Health and Human Services Agency, in collaboration with the departments under its purview, the Governor’s office, the Office of Health Equity, and other relevant agencies and stakeholders, to cut racial disparities in childhood chronic conditions in 1/2 by 2030, while improving overall outcomes for all children. The bill also makes related findings and declarations.