

MCHAP – Bills of Interest  
November 16, 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 32**      **Aguiar- Curry D**

**Telehealth.**

**Location:** 7/14/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**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.

**AB 46**      **Rivas, Luz D**

**California Youth Empowerment Act.**

**Location:** 10/8/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**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:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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 226**

**Ramos D**

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

**Location:** 10/8/2021-A. VETOED

**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:** 5/25/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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:** 9/10/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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:** 10/8/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**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:** 7/9/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**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 and labor organizations, to consult with that advisory group on the implementation of the WCM, and to consider the advisory group's recommendations on prescribed matters. Current law terminates the advisory group on December 31, 2021. This bill would remove labor organizations from the stakeholder advisory group, and would instead include recognized exclusive representatives of CCS county providers. The bill would instead terminate the advisory group on December 31, 2023.

**AB 526**

**Wood D**

**Dentists and podiatrists: clinical laboratories and vaccines.**

**Location:** 10/8/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Would authorize a dentist or podiatrist, if the dentist or podiatrist complies with specified requirements, to independently prescribe and administer influenza and COVID-19 vaccines approved or authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration for persons 3 years of age or older, as specified.

**AB 552**

**Quirk-Silva D**

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

**Location:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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:** 7/14/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**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. The bill would authorize the office to form advisory groups, as specified, and, to the extent necessary, would require the State Department of Health Care Services to make available to the office any information on other school-based dental, health, and mental health programs, and school-based health centers, that may receive Medi-Cal funding.

**AB 573**

**Carrillo D**

**Youth Mental Health Boards.**

**Location:** 5/25/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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: health and mental health services: School Health Demonstration Project.**

**Location:** 7/14/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would establish, within the State Department of Education, the School Health Demonstration Project, a pilot project, to be administered by the department, in consultation with the State Department of Health Care Services, to expand comprehensive health and mental health services to public school pupils by providing training and support services to selected local educational agencies to secure ongoing Medi-Cal funding for those health and mental health services, as provided.

**AB 652**

**Friedman D**

**Product safety: juvenile products: chemicals: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.**

**Location:** 10/5/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Would, on and after July 1, 2023, prohibit a person, including a manufacturer, from selling or distributing in commerce in this state any new, not previously owned, juvenile product, as defined, that contains regulated perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), as defined. The bill would require a manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative when replacing PFAS chemicals in a juvenile product.

**AB 733**

**Chiu D**

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

**Location:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would authorize a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice to perform specified duties and functions authorized to be performed by a registered dental hygienist as an independent contractor for a physician and surgeon or medical practice on an individual who is under 18 years of age or pregnant, enrolled in the Medi-Cal program, and has not utilized Medi-Cal dental program benefits in the past 12 months. The bill would require a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice to refer a screened patient with possible oral abnormalities or conditions to a dentist for a comprehensive examination, diagnosis, and treatment plan, as provided. The bill would also require a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice to provide a written informed consent to the patient at each visit and to provide to the patient's established medical provider all relevant patient information, as specified.

**AB 748**

**Carrillo D**

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

**Location:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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 882**

**Gray D**

**Proposition 56 Medi-Cal Physicians and Dentists Loan Repayment Act Program.**

**Location:** 9/10/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law, until January 1, 2026, establishes the Proposition 56 Medi-Cal Physicians and Dentists Loan Repayment Act Program, which requires the State Department of Health Care Services to develop and administer the program to provide loan assistance payments to qualifying, recent graduate physicians and dentists who serve beneficiaries of the Medi-Cal program and other specified health care programs using moneys from the Healthcare Treatment Fund. Current law requires this program to be funded using moneys appropriated to the department for this purpose in the Budget Act of 2018, and requires the department to administer 2 separate payment pools for participating physicians and dentists, respectively, consistent with the allocations provided for in the Budget Act of 2018. For purposes of that program, and by January 1, 2022, this bill would require the department to exclusively provide loan assistance payments to Medi-Cal physicians and dentists who maintain a patient caseload composed of a minimum of 30% Medi-Cal beneficiaries and who meet one or more of specified requirements relating to practicing in areas, or serving populations, with provider shortages.

**AB 940**

**McCarty D**

**College Mental Health Services Program.**

**Location:** 9/10/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would amend Proposition 63 by appropriating \$20,000,000 annually from the administrative account of the Mental Health Services Fund to the University of California, if the University of California chooses to accept the moneys, the California State University, and 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 funding programs to increase campus student mental health services and mental health-related education and training. The bill would require campuses that participate in the program to report on the use of those grant funds, as specified, and to post that information on their internet websites.

**AB 942**

**Wood D**

**California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal initiative.**

**Location:** 6/4/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the board of supervisors in each county to designate an entity or entities to assist county jail inmates with applying for a health insurance affordability program, as defined, consistent with federal requirements. Commencing January 1, 2023, this bill would instead require the board of supervisors, in consultation with the county sheriff, to designate an entity or entities to assist both county jail inmates and juvenile inmates with the application process. The bill would make conforming changes to provisions relating to the coordination duties of jail administrators. By creating new duties for local officials, including boards of supervisors and jail administrators, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**AB 988**

**Bauer-Kahan D**

**Mental health: 988 crisis hotline.**

**Location:** 9/10/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law, the Warren-911-Emergency Assistance Act, requires every local public agency, as defined, to have an emergency communication system and requires the digits “911” to be the primary emergency telephone number within the system. Current federal law, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, designates the 3-digit telephone number “988” as the universal number within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Abuse and the

Veterans Crisis Line maintained by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. This bill would require 988 centers, as defined, to, by July 16, 2022, provide a person experiencing a behavioral health crisis access to a trained counselor by call and, by January 1, 2027, provide access to a trained counselor by call, text, and chat.

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

**Nurse-Family Partnership program.**

**Location:** 9/10/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would, to the extent that specified funding is available, 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's 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 1117** **Wicks D**

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

**Location:** 4/30/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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 1204** **Wicks D**

**Hospital equity reporting.**

**Location:** 10/9/2021-A. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) to oversee various aspects of the health care market, including oversight of hospital facilities and community benefit plans. Current law requires a private, not-for-profit hospital to adopt and update a community benefits plan that describes the activities the hospital has undertaken to address identified community needs within its mission and financial capacity, including health care services rendered to vulnerable populations. Current law defines “vulnerable populations” for these purposes to mean a population that is exposed to medical or financial risk by virtue of being uninsured, underinsured, or eligible for Medi-Cal, Medicare, California Children’s Services Program, or county indigent programs. This bill would add racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes and socially disadvantaged groups to the definition of “vulnerable populations” for community benefits reporting purposes.

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

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

**Location:** 5/25/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law establishes within state government the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. Current law also establishes various public health programs, including grant programs, throughout the state for purposes of promoting maternal, child, and adolescent health. This bill would require the office, 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.

**AB 1357** **Cervantes D**

**Perinatal services: maternal mental health.**

**Location:** 10/5/2021-A. VETOED

**Summary:** Current law provides for the implementation by the State Department of Public Health of a statewide, comprehensive community-based perinatal services program and requires the department to enter into contracts, grants, or agreements with health care providers to deliver those services in a coordinated effort, as specified, in medically underserved areas or areas with demonstrated need. This bill would require the department, for purposes of that program, to develop and maintain on its internet website a referral network of community-based mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum depression, prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care, neonatal and infant care services, and support groups, to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral, treatment, and support services in medically underserved areas and areas with demonstrated need.

**SB 14**

**Portantino D**

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

**Location:** 10/8/2021-S. CHAPTERED

**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, within the meaning of an absence due to a pupil's illness, an absence for the benefit of the pupil's mental or behavioral health.

**SB 17**

**Pan D**

**Office of Racial Equity.**

**Location:** 8/27/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would, until January 1, 2029, would establish in state government an Office of Racial Equity, an independent public entity not affiliated with an agency or department, governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council. The bill would authorize the council to hire an executive director to organize, administer, and manage the

operations of the office. The bill would task the office with coordinating, analyzing, developing, evaluating, and recommending strategies for advancing racial equity across state agencies, departments, and the office of the Governor. The bill would require the office, in consultation with state agencies, departments, and public stakeholders, as appropriate, to develop a statewide Racial Equity Framework that includes a strategic plan with policy and inclusive practice recommendations, guidelines, goals, and benchmarks to reduce racial inequities, promote racial equity, and address individual, institutional, and structural racism.

### **SB 65**

#### **Skinner D**

##### **Maternal care and services.**

**Location:** 10/4/2021-S. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Would enact the Midwifery Workforce Training Act, under which the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development would contract with programs that train certified nurse-midwives and programs that train licensed midwives to increase the number of students receiving quality education and training as a certified nurse-midwife or a licensed midwife, as specified. The bill would require the office to contract only with programs that include, or intend to include, a component of training designed for medically underserved multicultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and that are organized to prepare program graduates for service in those neighborhoods and communities.

### **SB 221**

#### **Wiener D**

##### **Health care coverage: timely access to care.**

**Location:** 10/8/2021-S. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Would codify the regulations adopted by the Department of Managed Health Care and the Department of Insurance to provide timely access standards for health care service plans and insurers for nonemergency health care services. The bill would require both a health care service plan and a health insurer, including a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan, to ensure that appointments with nonphysician mental health and substance use disorder providers are subject to the timely access requirements. The bill would additionally require a

health care service plan and a health insurer, including a Medical Managed Care Plan, to ensure that an enrollee or insured that is undergoing a course of treatment for an ongoing mental health or substance use disorder condition is able to get a followup appointment with a nonphysician mental health care or substance use disorder provider within 10 business days of the prior appointment.

## **SB 224**

### **Portantino D**

**Pupil instruction: mental health education.**

**Location:** 10/8/2021-S. CHAPTERED

**Summary:** Would require each school district, county office of education, state special school, and charter school that offers one or more courses in health education to pupils in middle school or high school to include in those courses instruction in mental health that meets the requirements of the bill, as specified. 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 services: grants.**

**Location:** 5/25/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would require the State Department of Education, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide up to \$500,000,000 in grants each year for the purpose of providing mental health services for all pupils, including those affected by school closures and distance learning requirements resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill would require the department to allocate those grants to local educational agencies, as specified. The bill would be implemented only to the extent that funds for its purposes are appropriated by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act, and would authorize that appropriation to come from any available state and federal funds.

**SB 256**

**Pan D**

**California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal.**

**Location:** 7/14/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current federal law authorizes specified managed care entities that participate in a state's Medicaid program to cover, for enrollees, services or settings that are in lieu of services and settings otherwise covered under a state plan. This bill would establish the CalAIM initiative, and would require the implementation of CalAIM to support stated goals of identifying and managing the risk and needs of Medi-Cal beneficiaries, transitioning and transforming the Medi-Cal program to a more consistent and seamless system, and improving quality outcomes. The bill would require the department to seek federal approval for the CalAIM initiative, and would condition its implementation on receipt of any necessary federal approvals and availability of federal financial participation.

**SB 293**

**Limón D**

**Medi-Cal specialty mental health services.**

**Location:** 8/27/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**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, including specialty mental health services, and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services for an individual under 21 years of age. With respect to specialty mental health services provided under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Program, on or after January 1, 2022, this bill would require the department to develop standard forms, including intake and assessment forms, relating to medical necessity criteria, mandatory screening and transition of care tools, and documentation requirements pursuant to specified terms and conditions, and, for purposes of implementing these provisions, would require the department to consult with representatives of identified organizations, including the County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California.

**SB 367**

**Hurtado D**

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

**Location:** 9/10/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law requires the governing board of each community college district and the Trustees of the California State University, and requests the Regents of the University of California, in collaboration with campus-based and community-based victim advocacy organizations, to provide, as part of established campus orientations, educational and preventive information about sexual violence to students at all campuses of their respective segments. This bill 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.

**SB 428**

**Hurtado D**

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

**Location:** 10/7/2021-S. CHAPTERED

**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. The bill would authorize each department to adopt guidance to implement this provision. 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:** 4/30/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**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. Current 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:** 9/10/2021-S. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** This bill would require the State Department of Public Health, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to establish a policy no later than 6 months after the effective date of the bill, to address 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 local educational agencies to adopt the policy subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act for that purpose.

### **SB 562**

#### **Portantino D**

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

**Location:** 9/10/2021-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Current law defines a "qualified autism service paraprofessional" to mean an unlicensed and uncertified individual who meets specified educational, training, and other criteria, is supervised by a qualified autism service provider or a qualified autism service professional, and is employed by the qualified autism service provider. Current law also requires a qualified autism service provider to design, in connection with the treatment plan, an intervention plan that describes, among other information, the parent participation needed to achieve the plan's goals and objectives, as specified. This bill would revise the definition of behavioral health treatment to require

the services and treatment programs provided to be based on behavioral, developmental, relationship-based, or other evidence-based models. The bill also would expand the definition of a “qualified autism service professional” to include behavioral service providers who meet specified educational and professional or work experience qualifications, and to expressly include licensed occupational therapy assistants, as specified.

**SB 682**

**Rubio D**

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

**Location:** 10/4/2021-S. VETOED

**Summary:** Current law establishes various public health programs for purposes of promoting child and adolescent health, including the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program, which provides for early and periodic health assessments to children in California. This bill would establish the End Racial Inequities in Children’s Health in California Initiative (EnRICH CA Initiative). The bill would require the California Health and Human Services Agency, in collaboration with other specified groups and entities, to convene an advisory workgroup, as specified, to develop and implement a plan, as specified, that establishes targets to reduce racial disparities in health outcomes by at least 50% by December 31, 2030, in chronic conditions affecting children, including, but not limited to, asthma, diabetes, dental caries, depression, and vaping-related diseases.