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**To:** Board Members **Date:** February 16, 2024

**From:** Rosanne Helms

Legislative Manager

**Subject: Legislative Update** 

## **BOARD-SPONSORED LEGISLATION**

The Board is sponsoring the following legislative proposals this year.

# 1. <u>SB 1024 (Ochoa Bogh) Healing Arts: Board of Behavioral Sciences: Licensees and Registrants</u>

This bill proposes clarifying two of the Board's statutory requirements:

- 1. The requirement to physically display a license or registration; and
- 2. The allowable number of "supervisees" that a supervisor is permitted to oversee.

The Board approved these proposed amendments at its November 17, 2023 meeting.

Status: This bill was introduced on February 6, 2024.

# 2. <u>Omnibus Bill Proposal (Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee) (No Bill Number Assigned at This Time)</u>

This bill proposal, approved by the Board at its November 17, 2023 meeting, makes minor, technical, or non-substantive amendments to add clarity to current law.

Status: This bill has not been introduced yet.

#### **BOARD-SUPPORTED LEGISLATION**

# 1. SB 11 (Menjivar) California State University: Mental Health Counseling

This bill would require the California State University (CSU) system to have a minimum of one full-time mental health counselor per 1,500 students at each of its campuses. The bill also requires the CSU system to create a pipeline to incentivize interested students to become mental health counselors in the state.

At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Board took a "support" position on this bill. The Board reaffirmed its "support" position at its August 18, 2023 meeting.

Status: This is a 2-year bill. The author has indicated they will not be pursuing it this year.

## 2. SB 238 (Wiener) Health Care Coverage: Independent Medical Review

This bill seeks to reduce barriers to mental health care for children and young adults, by making the independent medical review process automatic, rather than consumer-initiated, for mental health treatment and substance use disorder treatment denials for children and young adults up to age 26.

At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Board took a "support" position on this bill. The Board reaffirmed its "support" position at its August 18, 2023 meeting.

Status: This is a 2-year bill.

### 3. SB 513 (Wiener) Incarcerated Persons: Mental Health

This bill seeks to provide regular mental health therapy to all incarcerated inmates in California, not just those who are classified as severely mentally ill, with a goal of rehabilitation and reduced recidivism.

At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Board took a "support" position on this bill.

Status: This bill is dead.

### **BOARD-MONITORED LEGISLATION**

## 1. SB 766 (Eggman) Social Workers

This bill would limit the use of the title "social worker" to only those who hold a degree from an accredited school of social work.

At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Board considered the bill but didn't take a position.

Status: This bill is dead.

Updated: February 8, 2024