

**Summary**  
**CASP 3/1/21 Legislative Committee Meeting**

**The CASP Legislative Committee took “Support” positions on the following bills:**

**AB 285 (Holden) CDE: state school nurse consultant** – *The bill would appoint a school nurse to be housed in the CDE to work with school districts and school nurses to promote school nursing services and school health programs.*

**AB 270 (Ramos) Core Behavioral Health Crisis Services System** - *The bill would create the Core Behavioral Health Crisis Services System, using the digits “988” for the 988 Suicide Prevention and Behavioral Health Crisis Hotline, in compliance with existing federal law and standards governing the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.*

**AB 988 (Bauer-Kahan) Mental health: mobile crisis teams: 988 crisis hotline** – *The bill would establish the 988 Crisis Hotline Center, using the digits “988” in compliance with existing federal law and standards governing the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to implement the hotline system including hiring a director.*

**AB 309 (Gabriel) Pupil mental health: model referral protocols** – *The bill would require the CDE to develop a model referral protocol to address student mental health concerns. The model protocols will be designed for voluntary use by schools, as well as teacher, administrator, school pupil personnel services, and school nurse preparation programs.*

**AB 555 (Lackey) Special education: assistive technology devices** – *The bill would authorize a LEA or SELPA to retain, sell, or otherwise dispose of an assistive technology device, including, but not limited to, giving the assistive technology device to the individual with exceptional needs to whom it was assigned.*

**AB 563 (Berman) School-based health programs** – *The bill would require the CDE to establish an Office of School-Based Health Programs for the purpose of administering current health-related programs and advising it on issues related to the delivery of school-based Medi-Cal services in the state.*

**SB 229 (Dahle) Pupil health: mental health staff** – *The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to provide \$500 million to LEAs for increasing mental Health staff, specifically school psychologists and counselors.*

**Note:** *SB 229 was amended on 3/9/21 to remove the original language and instead requires DHCS in consultation with CDE to provide the \$500 million in grants each year to provide mental health services for pupils.*

**SB 237 (Portantino) Special education: dyslexia risk screening** – *The bill requires LEAs to annually screen students in grades K-12 for risk of dyslexia. The bill would require the results from the screening and state dyslexia program guidelines to be made available to an assessed student’s parent or guardian and teacher in a timely manner. The bill requires SBE to establish an approved list of culturally, linguistically, developmentally appropriate screening instruments.*

**The CASP Legislative Committee took a “Support if amended” position on AB 1361 (Rubio, Blanca) – Childcare and developmental services: preschool: expulsion and suspension: mental health services: reimbursement rates –** *The bill prohibits a child from being expelled/disenrolled from preschool unless specific steps are taken (report to parent on behaviors, redirect behavior, etc). Data would need to be collected in the area of expulsion/suspension and student demographics. The bill updates the definition of mental health consultation service, revises the requirements relating to the nature and frequency of the consultation service provided, and expands the types of licensed mental health care professionals who can provide the consultation service.*

The Legislative Committee is interested in seeking amendments to the bill that would allow Pupil Personnel Service Credential providers as eligible mental health consultants.

The Legislative Committee referred the following bills to the CASP Mental Health Committee for further review. The Mental Health Committee will be meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The bills focus on mental and behavioral health services, Medi-Cal services under LEA BOP, Telehealth and partnership development between county behavior health agencies and schools.

**AB 552 (Quirk-Silva) Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnership Program –** *would create the Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Services Partnership Program encouraging LEAs and county behavioral health agencies to collaborate on providing on school campus services for students at the earliest onset of a behavioral health condition.*

**AB 586 (O’Donnell) Mental Health Services –** *will be amended to establish the School Health Demonstration Project to expand comprehensive health and mental health services to students by providing assistance and support to selected LEAs to build the capacity for long-term sustainability through leveraging multiple funding streams and partnering with county Mental Health Plans, Managed Care Organizations, and community-based providers.*

**AB 883 (O’Donnell) Pupil Mental Health Services –** *will be amended to use the unspent Prop 63 funds for school mental health services.*

**AB 1080 (Cunningham) Pupil services: educational counseling—** *would add a provision to the Educational Counseling Program that allows the LEA to partner with community health providers or clinics to administer any part of its comprehensive education counseling program.*

**AB 1081 (Cunningham) LCFF: base grant add-on: pupil mental health—** *would provide an additional adjustment to the LCFF base grant if the LEA demonstrates partnership with local mental health agency.*

**SB 508 (Stern) Mental health coverage: school-based services –** *would extend telehealth provisions under medical and require health care plans to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health & substance abuse if 15% or more of the pupils enrolled are covered by health care plans.*

**SB 699 (Eggman) School climate: statewide school climate indicator –** *would require the SBE, on or before October 1, 2022, to adopt a statewide school climate survey indicator, based on data collected from the California Healthy Kids Survey.*