SB 22 (Beall) – Health Care Coverage: Mental Health Parity

Introduced December 3, 2012

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would ensure compliance with and implementation of state and federal mental health parity laws.

Existing law requires health care service plan contracts or health insurance policies issued, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2000, to provide coverage for the diagnosis and medically necessary treatment of severe mental illnesses, as defined, and of serious emotional disturbances of a child, as specified, under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions.

SENATE BILL No. 22

Introduced by Senator Beall

December 3, 2012

An act relating to health care coverage.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 22, as introduced, Beall. Health care coverage: mental health parity.

Existing law, the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975, provides for the licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care. Existing law provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Existing law requires health care service plan contracts or health insurance policies issued, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2000, to provide coverage for the diagnosis and medically necessary treatment of severe mental illnesses, as defined, and of serious emotional disturbances of a child, as specified, under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would ensure compliance with and implementation of state and federal mental health parity laws.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
2 legislation that would ensure compliance with and implementation
3 of federal and state mental health parity laws.

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