


MEMORANDUM

DATE	July 25, 2017
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Konnor Leitzell Central Services Student Assistant
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #5(b)(2)(NN) – SB 142 (Beall) Criminal Offenders: Mental Health.

Background:

This bill would require the courts to consider a defendant's mental health history when determining sentencing and whether treatment in the community, including residential treatment, is appropriate in lieu of incarceration. This bill would also require a probation officer to include whether a defendant is currently, or was at any prior time, eligible for public mental health services due to a serious mental illness in his or her report at the time of judgment for probation.

This bill would also authorize each county to establish a Community Mental Health Performance Incentives Fund to provide treatment services for adult offenders subject to local supervision and for those at risk of arrest or incarceration, and shall be spent on community-based mental health treatment programs that have been demonstrated by scientific research to reduce recidivism among individuals under local supervision.

The Assembly Committee on Public Safety has concerns pertaining to the formula used in calculating how many people were successfully diverted from re-incarceration and notes that a county can benefit twice from the diversion of the same person from a prison, once under SB 678 and once under SB 142. This bill is now a 2-year bill.

Location: Assembly Committee on Public Safety

Status: 6/27/2017 Set first hearing, canceled at the request of author

Votes: 5/31/2017 Senate Floor (35-4-1)
5/25/2017 Senate Appropriations (5-1-4)
5/15/2017 Senate Committee on Appropriations (7-0-0) Suspense File
4/18/2017 Senate Committee on Public Safety (7-0-0)

Action Requested:

No action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch SB 142 (Beall) due to its potential to reduce the number of incarcerated individuals suffering from mental illnesses and increase access to mental health services for incarcerated individuals, adult offenders, and individuals at risk of incarceration.