


## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	May 4, 2017
<b>TO</b>	Policy and Advocacy Committee
<b>FROM</b>	 Jason Glasspiegel Central Services Coordinator
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Agenda Item #4(c)(24) – AB 800 (Chiu) Hate Crimes: Hotline

**Background:**

This bill would require the Attorney General to establish, maintain, and publicize a toll-free public hotline telephone number for the purposes of reporting of hate crimes, connecting victims and witnesses of hate crimes to appropriate local resources, and for the dissemination of information about the characteristics of hate crimes, protected classes, civil remedies, and reporting options. The bill would require the Attorney General to post, maintain, and publicize a reporting form for hate crimes and hate incidents on his or her web site that can be completed and submitted online.

**Location:** Assembly Committee on Appropriations

**Status:** 4/19/2017 Do pass and re-refer to Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

**Vote:** 4/18/2017 Assembly Committee on Public Safety (7-0-0)

**Action Requested:**

No action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch AB 800 (Chiu) due to its potential impact on access to mental health services.

Attachment A: AB 800 (Chiu) Text

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(a) *According to recent data from the Southern Poverty Law Center, there are more than 68 hate groups currently operating in California, the second highest rate in the country.*

(b) *Recent data from the Department of Justice shows that hate crime events increased by 10.4 percent from 2014 to 2015. The data also show that in 2015, hate crimes involving a religious bias increased by 49.6 percent, and hate crimes involving bias against someone who is Latino increased by 35 percent. In addition, this data shows that hate crimes with a sexual orientation bias accounted for nearly 22.5 percent of hate crimes reported in 2015, and have been the second most common type of hate crime over the past 10 years.*

(c) *In many communities, people lack sufficient trust in local authorities to report hate crimes or hate incidents. A statewide hotline and online form would create important safe spaces to report a hate crime or incident.*

(d) *Following reports of an increase in hate crimes nationwide, similar hotlines have been established recently in other states and in parts of California, including by the district attorneys' offices of the City and County of San Francisco and the County of Alameda.*

**SEC. 2.** *Section 422.94 is added to the Penal Code, to read:*

**422.94.** (a) (1) *The Attorney General shall establish, maintain, and publicize a toll-free public hotline telephone number for the following purposes:*

(A) *Reporting hate crimes and connecting with local law enforcement agencies.*

(B) *Connecting people who have experienced or witnessed a hate crime or hate incident to other appropriate local resources.*

(C) *Disseminating information about the characteristics of hate crimes and hate incidents, classes of individuals protected under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 422.55), civil remedies that may be available for victims of hate crimes, and reporting options.*

(2) *The hotline shall be accessible to people with disabilities and people who cannot speak English.*

(b) *The Attorney General shall post, maintain, and publicize a reporting form for hate crimes and hate incidents on his or her Internet Web site that can be completed and submitted online and connects individuals to the same resources and information described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).*