


MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 30, 2018
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Cherise Burns Central Services Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #21(b)(2)(J) – AB 2143 (Caballero) Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program

Background:

AB 2143 (Caballero) relates to the current Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program within the Health Professions Education Foundation (HPEF). This bill would add physician assistants who work in psychiatric mental health settings and psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioners to those licensed mental health service providers eligible for grants.

Location: 4/25/2018 Assembly Committee on Appropriations

Status: 4/26/2018 Read second time and amended.

Votes: 3/20/2018 Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (13-0-3)
4/24/2018 Assembly Committee on Health (15-0-0)

Action Requested:

The Policy and Advocacy Committee recommends the Board watch AB 2143 (Cabellaro) for any potential impacts on the HPEF program and access to mental health services in California.

Attachment A: AB 2143 (Cabellaro) Bill Text

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AB-2143 Mental health: Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program. (2017-2018)

SEC. 4. SECTION 1. Section 128454 of the Health and Safety Code, as added by Section 9 of Chapter 557 of the Statutes of 2017, is amended to read:

128454. (a) There is hereby created the Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program within the Health Professions Education Foundation.

(b) For purposes of this article, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Licensed mental health service provider" means a psychologist licensed by the Board of Psychology, registered psychologist, postdoctoral psychological assistant, postdoctoral psychology trainee employed in an exempt setting pursuant to Section 2910 of the Business and Professions Code or employed pursuant to a State Department of Health Care Services waiver pursuant to Section 5751.2 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, marriage and family therapist, associate marriage and family therapist, licensed clinical social worker, associate clinical social worker, licensed professional clinical counselor, ~~and—~~ associate professional clinical ~~counselor.~~ *counselor, psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner, and physician assistant who works in a psychiatric mental health setting.*

(2) "Mental health professional shortage area" means an area designated as such by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(c) Commencing January 1, 2005, any licensed mental health service provider, including a mental health service provider who is employed at a publicly funded mental health facility or a public or nonprofit private mental health facility that contracts with a county mental health entity or facility to provide mental health services, who provides direct patient care in a publicly funded facility or a mental health professional shortage area may apply for grants under the program to reimburse his or her educational loans related to a career as a licensed mental health service provider.

(d) The Health Professions Education Foundation shall make recommendations to the director of the office concerning all of the following:

(1) A standard contractual agreement to be signed by the director and any licensed mental health service provider who is serving in a publicly funded facility or a mental health professional shortage area that would require the licensed mental health service provider who receives a grant under the program to work in the publicly funded facility or a mental health professional shortage area for at least one year.

(2) The maximum allowable total grant amount per individual licensed mental health service provider.

(3) The maximum allowable annual grant amount per individual licensed mental health service provider.

(e) The Health Professions Education Foundation shall develop the program, which shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(1) The total amount of grants under the program per individual licensed mental health service provider shall not exceed the amount of educational loans related to a career as a licensed mental health service provider incurred by that provider.

(2) The program shall keep the fees from the different licensed providers separate to ensure that all grants are funded by those fees collected from the corresponding licensed provider groups.

(3) A loan forgiveness grant may be provided in installments proportionate to the amount of the service obligation that has been completed.

(4) The number of persons who may be considered for the program shall be limited by the funds made available

pursuant to Section 128458.

(f) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2018.

SEC. 2. *This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:*

In order to address the urgent need for licensed mental health practitioners in medically underserved areas, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.