DMH LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

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Assembly Bill 86 (Jones-Sawyer) Homelessness: Lead Entity.

Status: Pending

- Existing law establishes various programs to address homelessness, including requiring the Governor to create an Interagency Council on Homelessness. Existing law requires the council to, among other things, identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California and promote systems integration to increase efficiency and effectiveness to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish a single entity to serve as the lead for ending homelessness, who would perform specified duties.

Assembly Bill 283 (Patterson) Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission

Status: 03/16/2023 Assembly Consent Calendar.

- Existing law specifies the composition of the 16-member Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission, including the Attorney General or their designee, the Superintendent of Public Instruction or their designee, specified members of the Legislature, and 12 members appointed by the Governor.
- This bill would urge the Governor, in making appointments, to consider ensuring geographic representation among the 10 regions of California defined by the 2020 census.

AB 745 (Bryan) Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program.

Status: Scheduled to be heard on 03/29/2023 in Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development.

- This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development to create the Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program, to provide grants to applicants, for innovative or evidence-based housing, housing-based services, and employment interventions to allow people with recent histories of incarceration to exit homelessness and remain stably housed.
- The bill would require recipients of funds from the program to use those funds for, among other things, long-term rental assistance in permanent housing, incentives to landlords, and innovative or evidence-based services to assist participants in accessing permanent supportive housing.
- The bill would require the department to distribute funds allocated by executing contracts with awarded entities for a term of 5 years, subject to automatic renewal.

SB 43 (Eggman) Behavioral health.

Status: Scheduled to be heard in Senate Health Committee on 3/29/23

- This bill expands the definition of "gravely disabled" to also include a condition that will result in substantial risk of serious harm to the physical or mental health of a person due to a mental health disorder or a substance use disorder.
- The bill defines "serious harm" for purposes of these provisions to mean significant deterioration, debilitation, or illness due to a person's inability to carry out specified tasks, including, among other things, attend to needed personal or medical care and attend to self-protection or personal safety.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE DATES

- March 30 April 10, 2023 Spring Recess
- April 10, 2023 Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess

Questions?

