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California Legislature
Senate Select Committee
on
Autism & Related Disorders



INFORMATIONAL HEARING on SB 946 (Steinberg):
*An Overview on the Implementation of California's Autism
Insurance Mandate Coverage Legislation*

March 4, 2014 at 1:30 PM
The State Capitol in Room 4203

Goals & Objectives:

The Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders (Committee) will hold an informational hearing on SB 946 (autism mandate), which was signed into law in 2011 and took effect on July 1, 2012. SB 126 (Steinberg), which was enacted during 2013, extends the provisions of the autism mandate until January 1, 2017.

Senator Darrell Steinberg, as the Chairperson of the Committee has requested an informational hearing on the accomplishments, functions, applications and performances of the autism mandate. The overarching goals and objectives of this hearing will include the following:

- 1) Access to care: Are consumers and families obtaining appropriate services and interventions in a timely and effective manner?



- 2) **Assessment and treatment**: Are consumers and families obtaining services and interventions from appropriate and qualified network of providers?
- 3) **Fiscal implications**: What are the financial issues (savings and expenses) that have ensued from the autism mandate and how are they affecting consumers/families, regional centers, providers, health plans and other stakeholders?
- 4) **Benefits & Challenges**: Are there other issues, perspectives, and topics that merit consideration in the implementation of the autism mandate?

Hearing Format:

The hearing is committed to present an objective and balanced view of the issues, advantages, and challenges during the first 18 months' implementation of autism mandate. The agenda for this hearing will focus on obtaining as much data and objective information as possible. Therefore, participants will be requested to identify salient issues and, to the greatest extent possible, to support their findings and recommendations with as many facts, statistics, and documentation as possible. In view of the compelling power of personal testimony and anecdotal information, written testimony will also be accepted and the agenda will also include time for public comments.

Hearing Information & Updates: Additional information will be available, and periodically updated, at the web site for the Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders: <http://autism.senate.ca.gov/informationalhearings> .

Draft Agenda of the Hearing

- 1) Welcoming Comments by Sen. Steinberg & Committee Members
- 2) An Overview of SB 946 by DMHC & CA Dept. Insurance
- 3) The Impact of SB 946 on the Regional Center System
 - a. Overview of the Data & Information: Legislative Analyst Office:
 - b. DDS representative:
 - c. Regional Center representative:
- 4) The Impact of SB 946 on Consumers & Their Families

a. Consumer Representatives:

i. Regional Center consumer

ii. Non-Regional Center consumer

5) SB 946 Implementation: Providing Services and Interventions

a. Provider Representative:

b. Health Plan Representative:

6) Public Testimony

7) Closing Comments by Committee Members

8) Adjournment