

SENATE BILL SB-23

Introduced by Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-33)

An act relating to Shared Physical and Mental Health Care Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB-23, Lena Gonzalez (D-33). Shared Physical and Mental Health Care Act.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Care Services to develop standardized statewide transition tools to coordinate care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries moving between mental health delivery systems. Existing law permits the department to require the use of these tools.

This bill would require use of the transition tools and establish grants for existing Medi-Cal clinics to provide primary care and outpatient mental health services at the same location. Participating clinics would provide shared registration and scheduling, private treatment rooms, coordinated appointments, and a choice among available qualified providers. Patients could request either type of care without first attending an appointment for the other.

This bill would allow grants to support clinic improvements, staffing, care coordination, and supervised workforce training. Grants would prioritize underserved communities, including qualifying areas in the Central Valley, Inland Empire, and North State.

This bill would appropriate \$20,000,000 from the General Fund for clinic grants, administration, and evaluation. Clinic participation would be voluntary. The bill would impose a state-mandated local program by requiring county mental health plans to use the transition tools and would provide reimbursement of qualifying mandated costs.

Vote: 2/3rds. **Appropriations/fiscal:** yes. **Local program:** yes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

HOW TO WRITE YOUR BILL — delete these instructions when you start.

Write your bill's legal text in this document. Use the standard amendment marks: italic for language you are ADDING to existing law (Ctrl+I on Windows, ⌘+I on Mac), strikethrough for language you are REMOVING (Alt+Shift+5 on Windows, ⌘+Shift+X on Mac). Brand-new sections need no special formatting.

Do NOT color any text. Colors are applied automatically when your bill is published: strikethrough prints red, added language prints blue — exactly like real bills on leginfo.

SECTION 1.