



April 8, 2024

The Honorable Aisha Wahab  
California State Senate District 10  
1021 O Street, Suite 7330  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 1317 (Wahab) Inmates: psychiatric medication: informed consent - Support**

Dear Senator Wahab,

On behalf of the California State Association of Psychiatrists (CSAP), I write in support of SB 1317, which eliminates the sunset date on the existing process for obtaining court orders to administer involuntary medication to those with severe mental health disorders who are detained in county jails.

Existing law authorizes psychiatrists in county jails to obtain an involuntary psychiatric medication order for persons in custody who are a danger to themselves, a danger to others, or suffering from grave disability. To ensure due process, state law also sets forth the procedures and timelines for providing notice, legal counsel, and judicial review of such orders. Current law is set to sunset at the end of this year.

This law has been critical in enabling counties' to address the needs of those in county jails with the most severe mental health treatment needs. Involuntary administration of medication is a drastic measure of last resort sought by Custody Health psychiatrists only for those individuals whose condition is truly dire and deteriorating.

By eliminating the January 1, 2025 sunset date, this bill permanently allows counties to continue addressing the mental health treatment needs of individuals in county jail settings when the administration of involuntary medication is necessary.

For these reasons, CSAP is pleased to support SB 1317.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yoder', is positioned above the typed name.

Paul Yoder  
Legislative Advocate

CC: Members, Senate Public Safety Committee