



April 3, 2024

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

Re: SB 1320 (Wahab) Mental health and substance use disorder treatment - Support

Dear Senator Wahab,

On behalf of the California State Association of Psychiatrists (CSAP), I write in support of SB 1320, which requires health plans and insurers to establish a process to reimburse providers for mental health and substance use disorder treatment services that are integrated with primary care.

The report [Dissemination of Integrated Care Within Adult Primary Care Settings: The Collaborative Care Model](#), developed jointly by the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine (APM), reviewed the evidence-base for the Collaborative Care Model, essential implementation elements with detailed examples, lessons learned by those who have implemented the model, and recommendations for how to advance its use to better meet the whole health needs of people with mental health conditions.

As stated by the APA, “Integrated Models for Behavioral Health and Primary Care are essential for addressing the needs of individuals with mental health and substance use conditions. These models aim to seamlessly combine primary care and behavioral health services, ensuring comprehensive and holistic care for patients. Whether individuals seek help from specialty behavioral health providers or primary care settings, integrated models promote collaboration and enhance overall health outcomes. Over the past decade, the integration of behavioral health and general medical services has been shown to improve patient outcomes, save money, and reduce stigma related to mental health. Significant research spanning three decades has identified one model – the Collaborative Care Model – in particular, as being effective and efficient in delivering integrated care.”

CSAP is grateful to you for authoring, and is pleased to support, SB 1320.

Sincerely,

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

Paul Yoder
Legislative Advocate

CC: Chair and Members, Senate Health Committee