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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2017

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2017-2018 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 1473

Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk-Silva

February 17, 2017

An act relating to mental health—An act to add Section 5848.7 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1473, as amended, Quirk-Silva. Crisis stabilization—Mental health: pilot crisis stabilization program.

Existing law, the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013, provides that funds appropriated by the Legislature to the California Health Facilities Financing Authority for purposes of the act be made available to selected counties or counties acting jointly, except as otherwise provided, and used to increase capacity for client assistance and services in specified areas, including crisis intervention and crisis stabilization.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services to create a pilot crisis stabilization program in the County of Orange to provide mental health and safety support for older adults, and would appropriate an unspecified sum from the General Fund to the department for the purposes of implementing these provisions.

Existing law, the California Community Care Facilities Act, provides for the licensing and regulation of community care facilities, as defined, by the State Department of Social Services. Existing law includes within the definition of "community care facility" a short term residential therapeutic program, which is a residential facility licensed by the department and operated by any public agency or private organization that provides an integrated program of specialized and intensive care and supervision, services and supports, treatment, and short-term, 24-hour care and supervision to children. A violation of the act is a misdemeanor.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would enable a pilot program to explore and define the scope for the need for crisis stabilization and support for older adults, starting in Orange County. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enable service providers to develop statewide alternatives that would address the lack of crisis stabilization psychiatric care for geriatric patients. The bill would make related findings.

Vote: majority 2/3 Appropriation: nayes Fiscal Committee: nayes Local Program: no