



AGENDA ITEM 15

Action

2026 Legislative Priorities

Item Goals

- Review and consider legislation for the Commission to support in the 2026 legislative session.

Behavioral Health Landscape

- The Commission is frequently asked to consult on or provide guidance for developing legislative proposals, particularly those that may affect its operations or create new responsibilities. In addition, Commission staff proactively support legislation that aligns with the Commission’s behavioral health priorities.

Relevant Commission Work

- Beginning with the 2026 legislative session, the Commission reviews all legislation through the Legislative and External Affairs (LEX) Advisory Committee, using the committee’s decision-making framework.
- During the February 19, 2026, LEX Advisory Committee meeting, the committee recommended that the full Commission take a position on the following:
 - AB 96 (Jackson) – Support
Eliminates the minimum educational standard for a person applying for a certification as a Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist.
 - AB 1540 (González) – Support
Restores the “Press 3” LGBTQ+ Youth Crisis Hotline routing option available through the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline by requiring the California Office of Emergency Services to ensure technology allows for automatic routing.

- Proposed budget cuts to Medi-Cal community-based mobile crisis intervention services – *Oppose*
Changes the Mobile Crisis Benefit from a statewide mandatory Medi-Cal benefit to a county-option benefit thereby shifting the non-federal share of costs of the Medi-Cal benefit to the counties that opt to provide it.

Proposed Motion

- That the Commission supports AB 96 (Jackson) and directs staff to communicate its position to the legislature and the governor.
- That the Commission supports AB 1540 (González) and directs staff to communicate its position to the legislature and the governor.
- That the Commission opposes the proposed budget cut to the mobile crisis benefit and directs staff to communicate its position to the legislature and the governor.