

## Report to Council

Government Affairs Committee

March 10, 2022

### GAC meeting of March 8, 2022

1. **First meeting with CSAP GAC:** SCPS GAC (SGAC) reps to CSAP GAC (CGAC) attended CGAC on March 3, 2022, and gave report to SGAC. The current SCPS CGAC reps are Reba Bindra, Rod Shaner, and Emily Wood. The reps stated that they were warmly welcomed by the other CGAC members and were immediately involved. As per CGAC procedure, relevant legislative bills and recommended positions were placed on a consent list by SYASL, and bills of concern were taken off the consent list by any DB for discussion and vote. Remainder of consent list was voted on as a group. The votes were transmitted to CSAP Board (CSAPB) as recommendations to be voted upon by Board. While this seems like a reasonable procedure, SCPS may wish to work out sequences of communication among CGAC, CSAPB, SGAC, and SCPS Council. The following SGAC leg report and associated recommendations to Council are based upon this procedure.
2. **Legislative report:** (See Dropbox: CSAP G.A. Com Agenda March 3 2022)
  1. CSAP Consent Bill List: (CSAP Board Action: Approved)  
**Motion:** That the Council adoption the CSAP positions on the CSAP Consent Bill List
  2. Fairness for Injured Patients Act: (CSAP Board Action: Oppose Position) CGAC meets on March 17, 2022, to review materials that DBs might use to help inform psychiatrists and patients of the issues involved.  
**Motion:** That the Council take an Oppose position to FIPA
  3. Care Courts: Governor's proposal and responses from Counties and Legislature  
**Informational**
  4. LPS Bill Matrix subcommittee and/or assignment to CSAP public psychiatry committee  
**Motion:** That the Council select an SCPS representative to subcommittee
  5. AB 1636 (Weber) – Sex offenses; physician licenses: (CSAP Board Action: Approved)  
**Motion:** That the Council take a Support position
  6. AB 2551 (McCarty) – Firearms: (CSAP Board Action: Approved)  
**Motion:** That the Council take a Support position

7. SB 964 (Wiener) – Behavioral health: professions: work force: (CSAP Board Action: Approved)

**Motion:** That the Council take an Oppose Unless Amended position

8. DHCS Kaiser Agreement Status

**Informational**

3. **Letter to CMA pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 2) of February 10, 2022:** The committee discussed state advocacy implications of potential language for a letter to CMA pursuant to the SCPS Council resolution. (See attachment 1: Letter to CMA pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 2) \* of February 10, 2022).

**Motion:** Recommend that this wording be used in letter to CMA

4. **Letter to APA Assembly pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 3) of February 10, 2022:** GAC members discussed state advocacy implications of potential language for a reply to the officers of the APA Assembly, as requested by March 15, 2022, in their letter to SCPS of December 9, 2021. (See Attachment 2: Letter to APA Assembly pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 3) \* of February 10, 2022).

**Motion:** Recommend that this wording be used in reply to APA Assembly

5. **Possible additional appointments to GAC:** The committee noted that all positions in GAC, as determined by SCPS Council, have been filled, but there is interest by other SCPS members, especially early career members, in participating in GAC. The committee discussed ways that GAC might help inform and mentor additional interested SCPS members in legislative advocacy issues while providing enhanced input by other SCPS committees into recommendations to Council regarding SCPS positions on government issues and legislation. It was felt that new voting GAC members, if recommended by other advocacy related SCPS committees upon which they serve, if that committee would then have no more than two members on the GAC, could be useful.

**Attachment I: Letter to CMA pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 2)\* of February 10, 2022****Draft: 2022-03-09**

To whom it may concern:

This letter serves notice to the California Medical Association (CMA) that the California State Association of Psychiatrists (CSAP) is the only state level organization with voting privileges in the CMA Council on Legislation (COL) that represents the Southern California Psychiatric Society (SCPS). SCPS has no partnership or affiliation with any other state level organization for representation at CMA.

Sincerely,

\*Council resolution:

**Therefore, be it resolved that**

1. SCPS shall enter a process with CSAP to complete a representational agreement to take effect as soon as practical and, upon completion of a CSAP agreement,
2. **Notify all external medical organizations with links to statewide psychiatric organizations that CSAP is the sole statewide psychiatric organization that represents SCPS,**
3. Notify APA of an SCPS endorsement of CSAP as the APA-recognized state psychiatric organization, and
4. Reach out to all SCPS members, including those who enjoy additional determinative representation in other statewide psychiatric organization or donate or pay dues to other statewide psychiatric organizations, that SCPS continues to highly value a fertile exchange of ideas with those organizations and intends to consider engagement in joint advocacy projects with them, when such efforts are consistent with SCPS advocacy objectives to support our patients and profession.

**Attachment II: Letter to APA Assembly pursuant to SCPS Council resolution (Sec 3)\* of  
February 10, 2022  
Draft: 2022-03-03**

Dear Drs. Fitzgerald, Nelson, and Pozios,

This letter is in response to your letter to the Southern California Psychiatric Society (SCPS) of December 9, 2021, in which you request that SCPS “revisit this issue [of uncoordinated state advocacy] and notify the Officers of the Assembly in writing by March 15, 2022, of [your] plans for policy representation in the future.” (See attached)

To address the issue above and to provide policy representation for SCPS, compliant with the requirements of the APA Assembly Procedural Code and APA Bylaws, SCPS has joined the California State Association of Psychiatrists (CSAP). SCPS fully supports and endorses the CSAP as the State Organization for California. CSAP is an exclusively APA membership driven organization that now represents at least four of the five California APA District Branches (DBs) and 90% of California APA membership. Membership in CSAP is open to all California DBs, and we believe that it can serve to unify advocacy by APA psychiatrists in California.

Sincerely,

\*Council resolution:

**Therefore, be it resolved that**

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2. Notify all external medical organizations with links to statewide psychiatric organizations that CSAP is the sole statewide psychiatric organization that represents SCPS,
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other statewide psychiatric organizations, that SCPS continues to highly value a fertile exchange of ideas with those organizations and intends to consider engagement in joint advocacy projects with them, when such efforts are consistent with SCPS advocacy objectives to support our patients and profession.