

Report to Council

Government Affairs Committee

June 9, 2022

GAC meeting of June 7, 2022

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The Co-chairs welcomed new members to the committee, including those from Diversity and Culture and Access to Care Committees and residents and ECPs with newly established ex officio membership on GAC pursuant to Council action in April.
2. **Federal and APA Issues:** The committee discussed key Federal issues, including
 1. ***The impact of recent mass shootings upon mental health policies*** (including the APA statement issued in response),
 2. ***National interest in integrating mental health response and its relationship to 988*** initiatives in California and elsewhere, and
 3. ***Developments in Wit v. UH***, in which the APA has joined with other organizations in filing an amicus brief requesting the full 9th Circuit Court of Appeals reconsider the unpublished 3-judge ruling in March reversing a lower court ruling that had the effect of requiring UH medical necessity reviews to adhere to recognized national standards. The impact on parity was noted.
3. **CSAP GAC (CGAC) Meeting of June 2, 2022:** SCPS GAC (SGAC) reps to CSAP GAC (CGAC) (Reba Bindra, Zeb Little, Rod Shaner, and Emily Wood) attended CGAC on June 2, 2022, and gave report to SGAC. Key parts of the CGAC agenda were:
 1. ***Updates on the CARE Court Initiative (SB 1338)***: CGAC considered a motion (see dropbox CGAC SB 1338 motion) that was based upon the SCPS action of last month adopting a *support if amended* position. Since that time, the legislation has been amended and more amendments are contemplated. The CGAC tabled the discussion to its meeting of June 16, when the motion will be considered in light of any further changes in SB 1338 language. The SCPS reps noted that SCPS continues to have major concerns regarding the bill's impact on social justice issues and its relationship with LPS regulation, and with the general lack of sufficient clarity in bill language.
 2. ***The LPS Bills Matrix (Eggman bills)***. The status of these bills and associated amendments remain fluid. Of note, SB 1416 Mental health services: gravely disabled persons (Eggman), which adds a new criterion for grave disability under LPS regulations and passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, is now being review in the assembly, and amendments limiting the new criterion "unable to provide for the basic personal needs of medical care" by conditioning this criteria

on the severity of the medical condition(s) in question. CGAC will is scheduled to review the status of the matrix on June 16.

3. **AB 35 Position:** (see dropbox AB 35 motion). CGAC considered a motion (see dropbox CGAC SB 1338 motion) that was based upon the SCPS action of last month that set forth a number of actions to pursue in concert with other organizations, including CMA, to address possible adverse effects of the language that raises caps on medical malpractice liability and recommended that the CGAC board pass it.
4. **SB 1337 (McGuire) Coordinated Care Initiative:** (CSAP-sponsored) SB 1337 was part of a national APA effort to introduce state legislation to mandate insurance coverage for a host of currently unrequired mental health and substance abuse treatment interventions that would be coordinated with other medical care. The state legislative analyst surprisingly reported that there was insufficient evidence to support such interventions. SGAC members discussed the implications for the APA initiative and the way it is presented to states.
4. **CSAP Board Meeting 6/02/022 Advocacy Issues Report** SCPS CSAP Board members Zeb Little and Rod Shaner summarized the Board discussion and positive vote concerning the motion to offer CCPS a 2022 dues waiver if they choose to join CSAP. (see dropbox CCPS Dues Waiver motion). The CSAP Board Action requires that each member DB vote as soon as possible on whether each supports the proposal. After extensive discussion concerning the implications of this action upon advocacy, SGAC voted to recommend to SCPS Council a support vote.

Motion I: That SCPS Council support an offering by CSAP of a 2022 dues waiver to CCPS if it joins CSAP.

Whereas,

APA bylaws and the Procedural Code of the Assembly require that all APA District Branches in California jointly coordinate legislative advocacy; and

Whereas,

Psychiatric advocacy would be greatly strengthened by the presence of a member driven organization of all California APA District Branches that can speak with a credible, respected, and unified voice to California policy makers and the public; and

Whereas,

CSAP offers a means to create unity of California APA District branches in an organization that would likely entirely compliant with all requirements in the APA Assembly Procedural Code and APA Bylaws for a State Organization; and

Whereas,

Waiving of the 2022 CSAP dues for CCPS to join CSAP would acknowledge that CCPS may have insufficient funding to pay, even prorated, 2022 CSAP dues because it has previously committed its 2022 advocacy funding; and

Whereas,

Should CCPS accept the CSAP offer of participation with a 2022 dues waiver, the advocacy abilities of all California DBs would be augmented without current CSAP District Branches incurring significant additional advocacy costs for 2022; and

Whereas,

The CSAP offer to CCPS of a 2022 dues waiver greatly strengthens CSAP by demonstrating to APA psychiatrists across California the credibility, dedication to unity, and commitment of CSAP to advocacy for APA membership; and

Whereas,

The CSAP Board has voted to offer to CCPS, if all participating district branches, including SCPS, approve, 2022 CSAP membership consistent with the CSAP Procedural Code, but without a requirement for 2022 dues,

Therefore, be it resolved that:

SCPS approves the offer to CCPS of participation in CSAP for the rest of 2022 with a complete dues waiver and no other additional obligations beyond those imposed by the remaining conditions of the CSAP Procedural Code upon all participating DBs.