



June 21, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez  
Chair, Senate Health Committee  
California State Capitol, Room 2191  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1315 (Mullin): Mental health: early psychosis detection and intervention – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hernandez,

One Mind Institute and its founders, the Staglin family, are pleased to SUPPORT AB 1315 by Assemblymember Kevin Mullin. AB 1315 provides the opportunity to expand evidence-based early detection and intervention services and supports to transition-aged youth and young adults who are at risk of, or experiencing, psychotic symptoms or have other serious mood disorders.

I believe my recovery from my 1990 schizophrenia diagnosis would not have been possible without the early, comprehensive care my parents helped me to access. Today, I serve on the Board of Directors of the international brain health research nonprofit, One Mind Institute, and in this capacity (and beyond) I am a committed advocate for early intervention. It has been my personal privilege to assist the Steinberg Institute in crafting the language for AB 1315. With pending amendments to maximize its potential, the bill could transform behavioral healthcare in California and be a huge boon for public health.

Assemblymember Mullin's AB 1315 would expand early treatment by creating a public-private partnership to leverage competitive funding for counties. Counties would then direct the new funding to develop innovative approaches and evaluation tools and ultimately create new local capacity for early detection and treatment of youth early psychosis.

Under AB 1315, counties that choose to participate must meet specified requirements for evidence-based services and supports and provide a contribution of local funds, such as Mental Health Services Act moneys. Private donations would provide the critical incentive for local communities to become engaged and focus on this substantive gap in services that, if untreated, can initiate a trajectory of accumulating disability in adulthood.

AB 1315 provides for an expedited competitive selection process to be administered by the Commission, under the leadership of the Advisory Committee. This entire process would be structured and awarded through the collaboration of these two entities. The intent is to provide timely expertise, a defined public administrative process, and the ability to create new programs or to expand and improve existing ones at the local level.

For transparency, and to empower these programs to continuously improve their treatment models for the benefit of their patients, my organization and I propose that AB 1315 be amended to specify that these programs will share their clinical and outcomes data through a

central data portal made available at no cost. This data would be available to the public, to all programs, and to the committee to analyze to offer suggestions for enhancements to best practices. This portal would also enable collaborative multi-site research to validate innovative treatments.

Nearly 100,000 adolescents and young adults experience first-episode psychosis each year. California needs to meet this challenge with intensive early psychosis and detection programs at the local level, coordinated by the state. One Mind Institute is pleased to support AB 1315, and we respectfully ask for your “Aye” vote. Should you have any questions about our support or the small but potentially very beneficial amendments we propose, please don’t hesitate to contact me at (707) 963-4038 or [brandon@onemindinstitute.org](mailto:brandon@onemindinstitute.org). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon Staglin". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brandon Staglin, on behalf of the Staglin family  
Director of Marketing and Communications, Board Director  
One Mind Institute

cc: The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Speaker pro Tempore of the Assembly  
Honorable Members, Senate Health Committee  
Reyes Diaz, Consultant, Senate Health Committee  
Adrienne Shilton, Steinberg Institute