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RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISOR

KENNETH HAHN *KH*

October 29, 1957

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California, through the enactment of the Short-Doyle act for community mental health services, has laid the ground work for an effective, humane and aggressive campaign for the conservation of mental health and for the prevention of mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the Short-Doyle act provides for the establishment of local mental health authorities by counties, by cities with population of 50,000 or more, or by cities and/or counties jointly with the financing of the local mental health program to be shared on a fifty-fifty basis by the State of California and the local authority provided certain requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, the Short-Doyle act includes reimbursement to programs of mental health now in operation provided these programs are brought within the provisions of the act; and

WHEREAS, in order to qualify for State financial participation, the local mental health authority must provide at least two of the following five mental health services:

- 1 - Outpatient services in clinics.
- 2 - Inpatient services in general hospitals for a period not to exceed 90 days.
- 3 - Rehabilitation services in clinics, general hospitals, or special centers.
- 4 - Informational and educational services to the public and to the professions and agencies concerned with mental health.
- 5 - Mental health consultation for the staffs of schools, public health departments, probation offices, welfare departments, etc., to help them deal more effectively with their children's or clients' mental health problems before they become severe enough to require psychiatric treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Short-Doyle act requires the establishment of a Local Mental Health Advisory Board consisting of seven members including three local physicians in private practice, one of whom shall be a psychiatrist where possible, the chairman of the local governing body (Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County), a superior court judge selected by the judges of the county, and two lay persons representative of the public interest in mental health; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles at the present time is providing mental health outpatient and inpatient service, at the Los Angeles County General Hospital, plus a mental health clinic at Juvenile Hall and it is believed by competent authorities that these programs will satisfy the requirements for state subvention, or could be modified to meet the requirements, and

WHEREAS, the earliest effective date for State reimbursement to local mental health services under the Short-Doyle act is December 1, 1957 and it is possible that Los Angeles County may receive in excess of \$300,000 for the balance of the fiscal year following December 1, as reimbursement for its mental health services now in operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby establishes a community mental health service for the County of Los Angeles, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby establishes the Los Angeles County Mental Health Advisory Board whose members are to be appointed in accordance with section 9006 of the Welfare and Institutions Code to perform the duties outlines in section 9008 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Counsel, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Superintendent of Charities, the County Health Officer and the Counselor in Mental Health be instructed to implement the provisions of the Short-Doyle act and provide coordinating and consultive services to the Mental Health Advisory Board to the end that Los Angeles County can receive the maximum reimbursement from the State effective December 1, 1957 for the programs now in operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby declares its intention to expand the mental health services now being provided by the County of Los Angeles to embrace the preventive programs of the Short-Doyle act, including the establishment of mental health clinics at local health centers.

Kenneth Halperin