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THIRD READING

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Bill No: AB 137  
Author: Committee on Budget  
Amended: 8/27/23 in Senate  
Vote: 21 - Urgency

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SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 8/30/23  
AYES: Skinner, Becker, Caballero, Durazo, Eggman, Laird, McGuire, Menjivar,  
Min, Newman, Padilla, Roth, Smallwood-Cuevas  
NOES: Niello, Dahle, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: Not relevant

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**SUBJECT:** Health omnibus trailer bill

**SOURCE:** Author

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**DIGEST:** This bill is an omnibus health trailer bill, and contains changes to implement the 2023-24 budget.

**ANALYSIS:** This bill makes technical and clarifying statutory revisions affecting health programs necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2023. Specifically, this bill:

*Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA)*

- 1) Requires Senate confirmation of the Director and Chief Medical Officer of the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) and clarifies that both positions serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

*Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)*

- 2) Expands the authority of the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to enter partnerships to develop, manufacture, or distribute an over-the-counter version of a naloxone nasal product.

*Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)*

- 3) Revises provisions originally adopted in AB 2317 (Ramos), Chapter 589, Statutes of 2022, including the membership of interdisciplinary teams in psychiatric residential treatment facilities and conditions authorizing disclosure of information or other records to ensure a dependent or ward receives all necessary services or referrals for transition to a lower level of care.
- 4) Beginning no sooner than July 1, 2027, authorizes DHCS to approve licensing and certification fee increases on residential and outpatient substance use disorder treatment facilities of up to five percent without approval by the Legislature.
- 5) Requires, by July 1, 2024, DHCS to develop a process for substance use disorder treatment facilities to apply for a hardship fee waiver, with the goal of providing access to quality substance use disorder services.
- 6) Authorizes federal fund expenditure authority of \$56.2 million for DHCS to expend federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant awards.

*Department of Public Health (CDPH)*

- 7) Delays until July 1, 2027, implementation of a lead-related construction program at the Department of Public Health (CDPH) authorized by SB 1076 (Archuleta), Chapter 507, Statutes of 2022.
- 8) Delays until July 1, 2026, implementation of an education and outreach program for lead-related construction at CDPH authorized by SB 1076.
- 9) Delays by one year, until January 1, 2025, the deadline by which CDPH must adopt emergency regulations to implement audit recommendations for the licensure and oversight of hospice agencies.
- 10) Lifts the moratorium on hospice agency licensure at CDPH upon adoption of emergency regulations to implement audit recommendations.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

According to the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, this bill authorizes federal fund expenditure authority of \$56.2 million for DHCS to expend federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant awards.

**SUPPORT:** (Verified 8/31/23)

None received

**OPPOSITION:** (Verified 8/31/23)

None received

Prepared by: Scott Ogus / SBFR / (916) 651-4103  
8/31/23 16:16:51

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