

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1342

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Petersen

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Higher education; mental health treatment coordination.

5. Summary: Requires the governing board of each public four-year institution of higher education to establish a written memorandum of understanding with its local community services board or behavioral health authority and with local hospitals and other local mental health facilities in order to expand the scope of services available to students seeking treatment. The bill requires the memorandum to designate a contact person to be notified when a student is involuntarily committed, or when a student is discharged from a facility and consents to such notification. The bill also requires the memorandum to include the institution in the post-discharge planning of a student who has been committed and intends to return to campus, to the extent allowable under state and federal privacy laws.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Most four year public colleges and universities have staff counselors and therapists, and the ability to make arrangements with local mental health providers to coordinate the care of current students, should they be identified to the college or university and not be able to provide that care. It is assumed there would be negligible costs to establish the memorandums of understanding. It is uncertain, if in some cases, a college or university may be required to hire additional staff to follow through with this requirement. Since all mental health commitments, either voluntary or involuntary, are subject to strict privacy laws, the college or university's ability to follow up with any student and their post-discharge planning or future intervention is difficult to determine.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state supported four year colleges and universities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.