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**Senate Select Committee on Mental Health & Addiction
Compliance with California's Mental Health Parity Law (SB 855)**

Oversight Hearing

**Wednesday, October 18th, 2023, 10 AM
1021 O Street, Room 1200**

Hearing Details Agenda

Members Attending:

Senator Wiener, Chair
Senator Ashby
Senator Cortese
Senator Ochoa Bogh
Senator Rubio

AGENDA

1. 10 – 10:10 AM
Opening Remarks
2. 10:10 - 11 AM
Provider and Patient Panel
 - Meiram Bendat J.D., Ph.D. Founder, Psych-Appeal
 - Rebecca Farmer, Kaiser Patient (ZOOM)
 - Joan Borsten, Executive Director, Summit Estate Recovery Center
 - Michelle Cabrera, Executive Director, County Behavioral Health Directors Association
3. 11 – 11:45 AM
Expert Testimony
 - Dr. Emily Wood, previous Chair, California State Association of Psychiatrists Government Affairs Committee (ZOOM)
 - Sheirin Ghoddoucy, Senior Legal Counsel, California Medical Association
 - Karen Larsen, CEO, The Steinberg Institute
 - Lauren Finke, Senior Legislative Advocate, The Kennedy Forum
4. 11:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Agencies (CDI & DMHC)
 - Stesha Hodges (Assistant Chief Counsel), Department of Insurance
 - Mary Watanabe, Director, Department of Managed Health Care
5. 12:15 – 12:45 PM
Health Plans

- Jedd Hampton, Director of Legislative Affairs, California Association of Health Plans

6. 12:45 – 12:55 PM

Public Comment

- Adrienne Shilton, Director of Public Policy and Strategy, California Alliance for Children & Family Services
- Sherry Daley, Vice President of Governmental Affairs and Corporate Communications, California Consortium of Addiction Programs & Professionals
- Karen Fessel, Executive Director and Founder, Mental Health & Autism Insurance Project

7. 12:55 – 1 PM

Closing Remarks

Committee Staff and Contact Numbers:

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