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March 22, 2021

The Honorable Susan Talamantes Eggman  
California State Senate  
California State Capitol, Room 4052  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 316 (Eggman): Medi-Cal: federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Eggman:

On behalf of the National Alliance on Mental Illness - California (NAMI-CA), I am writing to express support of your SB 316 to allow same day visits for medical, dental, and/or mental health care in community clinics.

NAMI-CA is the statewide affiliate of the country's largest mental health advocacy organization, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Our over 110,000 active advocates and 62 affiliates include many people living with serious mental illnesses, their families, and supporters. NAMI-CA advocates on their behalf, providing education and support to its members and the broader community.

California is one of only a handful of states that do not allow for mental and physical health visits on the same day in the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and Rural Health Center (RHC) settings. SB 316 will improve Medi-Cal beneficiaries' access to behavioral health care services by allowing the option for these health clinics to provide patients with both behavioral health and medical services on the same day, and to be reimbursed for each. NAMI-CA believes primary care and mental health care providers working with families, youth and young adults living with mental illnesses are committed to ensuring they give adequate time, training, and resources necessary to provide appropriate care. The integration of physical and mental health care during the same health care visit will produce better treatment outcomes and overall better health outcomes for children, youth and adults living with mental illnesses.

For these reasons, NAMI-CA is pleased to support SB 316. I may be reached at [jessica@namica.org](mailto:jessica@namica.org) or (916) 567-0163 with any questions you may have. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jessica Cruz, MPA/HS  
Chief Executive Officer

**NAMI California**

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