From: Theresa Comstock
To: Christina Grandison
Subject: CORRECTION: Brown Act Allowances & Membership: Veterans (CALBHB/C)
Date: Friday, September 30, 2022 2:45:44 PM

Please note the correction highlighted below.

Dear Chairs and Staff Liaisons,

Please be aware of the following important updates affecting local mental/behavioral health boards/commissions (due to recently signed legislation: AB 738 and AB 2449).

1. **Brown Act Allowances:** The Brown Act has been updated to provide:

- **Public Emergency Allowances** have been extended through January 1, 2024. (See Brown Act Guide, Page 6.)
- **Allowances for Members** due to "Just Cause" or "Emergency" [*When not operating in a public emergency.*] (In effect January 1, 2023 - January 1, 2026): A local board/commission member may participate remotely without posting their physical location on the agenda under certain circumstances and with certain requirements. [See Brown Act Guide, Page 4 for circumstances and requirements.]

2. **WIC 5604 Membership: Veterans -** Link to Membership Code Update (Items in bold (related to veterans) take effect on 1/1/2023). Changes include:

- **Veteran Requirement:** One member shall be a veteran or veteran advocate (For counties with a population of 100,000 or more)
- **Veteran Encouragement:** A county shall give a strong preference to appointing at least one member of the board who is a veteran or a veteran advocate. (For counties with a population fewer than 100,000)
- **Vacancy Notification:** A county shall notify its county veterans service officer about vacancies on the board, if a county has a veterans service officer.
- **Definition:** "Veteran advocate" means either a parent, spouse, or adult child of a veteran, or an individual who is part of a veterans organization, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the American Legion.

The above changes will be incorporated into future CALBHB/C trainings/resources. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions.

Thank you to everyone who serves on and/or supports the work of one of CA's 59 local mental/behavioral health boards and commissions!

Best Regards,
Theresa Comstock, Executive Director
CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions
www.calbhbc.org Newsletter Resources

CALBHB/C supports the work of CA's 59 local Mental/Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

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