

APA Official Actions

Position Statement on Leadership of State Behavioral Health Services

Approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2019

Approved by the Assembly, November 2019

Reaffirmed, December 2014

Approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2008

Approved by the Assembly, November 2008

“Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees. . . These are . . . position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects. . .” – *APA Operations Manual*

Issue:

This statement prepared by the Committee on Public Funding is a revision of an earlier statement prepared by the APA Council on Mental Health Services which was approved by the Executive Committee, September 1970.

APA Position:

All state mental health and addiction authorities that provide, administer, and have regulatory authority for the prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for persons with mental illness, substance use disorders, and/or developmental disabilities must be under the direction of a qualified psychiatrist or include a qualified psychiatrist at the senior management level.