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TAB SECTION: 3

X ACTION REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 5/23/13

PREPARED BY: Lemonds/Oseguera DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 5/9/13

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**AGENDA ITEM:** First Read: Integration Policy Paper: "A Vision for Transforming the Mental Health System through Services Integration"

**ENCLOSURES:** Draft Services Committee Report: "A Vision for Transforming the Mental Health System through Services Integration"

**OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:** None

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**Issue:**

The Services Committee has completed a draft report titled "A Vision for Transforming the Mental Health System through Services Integration." The report addresses and focuses on integrating behavioral healthcare services (mental health and substance use) with physical healthcare services.

**Background:**

In November 2007, the Mental Health Services and Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) created a 19-member Workgroup on Co-occurring Disorders (COD). The MHSOAC charged the COD Workgroup with developing comprehensive recommendations to address the needs of people with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders.

The COD Workgroup, which met from November 2007 through June 2008, heard briefings by state leaders and experts on the status of the treatment of co-occurring disorders in California. The "Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission Report on Co-Occurring Disorder Services" was developed from the COD Workgroup and adopted by the Commission on November 20, 2008. The report's key findings and recommendations were intended to improve the capacity of state and county policy makers and program administrators to address the needs of individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use issues by promoting the delivery of integrated services for persons with these conditions.

Since the adoption of that report, the Services Committee recognized the ongoing, urgent need to improve the care of individuals with both behavioral health and physical healthcare needs by updating the previous COD Report. This updated report emphasizes the importance of integrating behavioral health services with physical healthcare services to best serve persons with these conditions. To date, requirements and incentives have not demanded or

encouraged services integration. Now, in the context of the Affordable Care Act and with shrinking local, state, and federal budgets, there is an opportunity to provide integrated services as a way to improve life outcomes for individuals and families and reduce costs. The Commission sees this as an opportunity to focus on services integration and collaborate with other state and local entities to further promote, review and measure the level of integration occurring between behavioral health and physical healthcare services in California.

The report presented for a First Read is intended to address the critical need for integration of behavioral health and physical healthcare services. As such, the report includes suggestions and recommendations that identify specific tasks and activities for state level entities, county level entities, and the MHSOAC.

**Possible Motion:**

- 1. Commission adopts report titled “A Vision for Transforming the Mental Health System through Services Integration” as presented by the Services Committee on May 23, 2013.***

**OR**

- 2. Commission recommends changes to the draft report titled “A Vision for Transforming the Mental Health System through Services Integration” in preparation for 2<sup>nd</sup> Read presentation to the Commission in July 2013.***