

## AVAPL Executive Committee (EC) call - minutes 8/20/2020

**Attendees:** Jennifer Boyd (JB), Mary Beth Shea (MBS) Sam Wan (SW), Kaki York-Ward (KY),

**Guest:** Russell Lemle (RL)

### Agenda: **Legislative business**

1. Discussed Senate bill 785, which passed SVAC in January and full Senate August 2020, and companion bill with many additional elements being proposed in House. AVAPL previously critiqued many parts of 785, especially Sec. 201 that provided grants to bypass VA for non-VA MH care. Would prepay organizations, they provide treatment to veterans in emergencies and non-emergencies. VA serving as payer not provider. Before a hearing Sept 10, Heather Kelly (HK) would like to know soon if AVAPL supports the amended 785, omnibus bill. It contains:
  - Preventing suicide – lethal means safety training (we support)
  - Title 38 for psychologists (we support)
  - Prescription privileges (RxP) pilot for VA psychologists who are already eligible in their states (we need to decide if we support)
  - Same competencies for community care program psychologists as for VA psychologists (we support)
2. RL departed call, EC discussed further – RxP, previous AVAPL survey.  
**Action items:** MBS to draft letter from AVAPL to HK, listing HVAC version overall and which specific new elements we support; MBS to draft new survey on RxP; SW will update Ken Jones (KJ).

Next EC meeting: Sept 17, 2020 11am Pacific.