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June 25, 2019

The Honorable Jim Beall
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support Senate Bill 12 (Beall) – Mental Health Services

Dear Senator Beall:

On behalf of the City of Cupertino, I am writing to express our support for your bill, Senate Bill 12, which establishes the Integrated Youth Mental Health Program (IYMHP) with the objective of establishing centers throughout California that provide integrated mental health, substance use, physical health, social support and other services for youths 12-25 years of age, and their families.

Data shows that youth are struggling with increased and unmet mental health needs in California. Each year, the number of youth who struggle with depression, thoughts of suicide, and self-harm has increased. The Stanford Psychiatry Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing is spearheading a new national vision for adolescent and young adult wellness through implementation of a groundbreaking international integrated youth mental health care model. The goal of this model is to develop sites reflective of the unique adolescent/young adult culture of each geographic community being served. These centers will serve all youth who enter, no matter if they are insured, underinsured, or uninsured and regardless of immigration status.

SB 12 is an opportunity to increase early detection and treatment to greatly improve the health of adolescents, and their families, in California as they transition to adulthood.

The City of Cupertino would like to thank you for your leadership and efforts to address mental health issues with the State's youth.

Sincerely,

Steven Scharf
Mayor, City of Cupertino