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## [kp-ibhs] DMHC looking into Kaiser's SB221 implementation plans

1 message

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**Greg Tegenkamp (National Union of Healthcare Workers)**

<gtegenkamp@members.nuhw.org>

To: Tara Draper <tdraper@nuhw.org>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 8:58

AM

Hi Tara,

Yesterday, as part of our effort to hold Kaiser Permanente accountable to mental health access and parity, we filed a complaint with the Department of Managed Health Care about some alarming changes Kaiser has made in Northern California to attempt to evade its obligations under Senate Bill 221, which took effect at the beginning of this month.

Since July 1, clinicians in Northern California have reported that their ability to prescribe, document, and deliver timely follow-up behavioral healthcare has been severely limited due to changes Kaiser made to its charting templates and internal administrative rules.

Clinicians are now being forced to use pre-designed charting templates and treatment plans that illegally constrain them from prescribing, documenting, and delivering timely and appropriate treatment for enrollees. Additionally, Kaiser has implemented new administrative rules that saddle clinicians with time-consuming, administrative burdens if clinicians attempt to override Kaiser's illegal restrictions.

These changes are an attempt by Kaiser to avoid its obligations under SB 221 and SB 855 and to conceal its failure to comply with the new laws.

Read the complaint [here](#).

### **Breaking news**

The DMHC has already responded to our complaint this morning, requesting additional information which we are in the process of compiling. This quick response demonstrates how serious the DMHC is taking our issues.

In Unity,

Greg Tegenkamp  
Kaiser Division Director  
National Union of Healthcare Workers

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