



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 452

October 18, 2013 - Introduced by Representatives STEINEKE, KRUG, KOLSTE, SEVERSON, BALLWEG, BERCEAU, BERNARD SCHABER, BERNIER, BIES, BILLINGS, CZAJA, DANOU, HEBL, HULSEY, JAGLER, JOHNSON, MURPHY, A. OTT, PASCH, RIEMER, SANFELIPPO, STRACHOTA, TITTL, TRANEL, WACHS, WRIGHT, ZEPNICK and JORGENSEN, cosponsored by Senators DARLING, VUKMIR, MOULTON, COWLES, ERPENBACH, HARRIS, HARSDDORF, LASSA and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Health.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 20.435 (5) (bw); and **to create** 20.435 (5) (bw) and 51.442 of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** child psychiatry consultation program and making an
3 appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create and administer a child psychiatry consultation program (consultation program) to assist participating clinicians in providing enhanced care to pediatric patients with mild to moderate health care needs, to provide referral support for those patients who need care beyond the scope of primary practice, and to provide additional services. The consultation program is not an emergency referral service. Before January 1, 2015, DHS must review proposals submitted by organizations seeking to provide consultation services through this consultation program (consultation providers) and must designate one urban and one rural regional program hub based on organizations' submitted proposals. Beginning on January 1, 2016, DHS must create additional regional program hubs to expand the consultation program statewide.

Under the bill, DHS must select qualified providers to provide consultation program services. To be a qualified consultation provider, an organization must demonstrate it meets certain criteria as specified in the bill. While required to have the capability to provide consultation services by telephone, a consultation provider may provide services by certain other means of communication including in-person conference. A consultation provider may also provide the following services, which

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1 **SECTION 4.** 51.442 of the statutes is created to read:

2 **51.442 Child psychiatry consultation program.** (1) In this section,
3 “participating clinicians” include pediatricians, family physicians, nurse
4 practitioners, and physician assistants.

5 (2) The department shall create and administer a child psychiatry consultation
6 program to assist participating clinicians in providing enhanced care to pediatric
7 patients with mild to moderate mental health care needs, to provide referral support
8 for those pediatric patients who need care that is beyond the scope of primary care
9 practice, and to provide additional services described in this section. The
10 consultation program created under this section is not an emergency referral service.

11 (3) (a) In the period before January 1, 2015, the department shall review
12 proposals submitted by organizations seeking to provide consultation services
13 through the consultation program under this section and shall designate one urban
14 and one rural regional program hub based on the submitted proposals. The
15 department shall select and provide moneys to organizations to provide consultation
16 services through the consultation program in a manner that maximizes medically
17 appropriate access and services as described under sub. (4).

18 (b) Beginning on January 1, 2016, the department shall create additional
19 regional program hubs in order to provide consultation services statewide.

20 (4) The department shall select qualified organizations to provide consultation
21 program services through the regional hubs. Each regional hub shall make available
22 its own qualified provider or consortium of providers. To be a qualified provider in
23 the program under this section, an organization shall successfully demonstrate it
24 meets all of the following criteria:

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1 (a) The organization has the required infrastructure to be located within the
2 geographic service area of the proposed regional hub.

3 (b) Any individual who would be providing consulting services through the
4 program is located on-site at the organization's facility.

5 (c) The organization enters into a contract with the department agreeing to
6 satisfy all of the following criteria as a condition of providing services through the
7 consultation program:

8 1. The organization has at the time of participation in the program and
9 maintains all of the following staffing at adequate levels:

10 a. A psychiatrist, who is either eligible for certification or certified by the
11 American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc., for either adult psychiatry or
12 child and adolescent psychiatry or both.

13 b. A social worker or psychologist.

14 c. A care coordinator.

15 d. Appropriate administrative support.

16 2. The organization operates during the normal business hours of Monday to
17 Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., excluding weekends and holidays.

18 3. The organization shall be able to provide consultation services as promptly
19 as is practicable.

20 4. The organization shall provide all of the following services:

21 a. Support for participating clinicians to assist in the management of children
22 and adolescents with mild to moderate mental health problems and to provide
23 referral support for those patients who are considered beyond the scope of primary
24 care practice.

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1 b. A triage-level assessment to determine the most appropriate response to
2 each request, including appropriate referrals to other mental health professionals.

3 c. When medically appropriate, diagnostic and therapeutic feedback.

4 d. Recruitment of other practices in the regional hub's service territory to the
5 provider's services.

6 5. The organization shall have the capability to provide consultation services
7 by telephone, at a minimum.

8 **(5)** (a) An organization providing consultation services through the
9 consultation program under this section may provide services by teleconference,
10 video conference, voice over Internet protocol, electronic mail, pager, or in-person
11 conference.

12 (b) The organization providing consultation services through the consultation
13 program under this section may provide any of the following services, which are
14 eligible for funding from the department:

15 1. Second opinion diagnostic and medication management evaluations
16 conducted either by a psychiatrist or by a social worker or psychologist either by
17 in-person conference or by teleconference, video conference, or voice over Internet
18 protocol.

19 2. In-person or Internet site-based educational seminars and refresher
20 courses provided to any participating clinician who uses the consultation program
21 on a medically appropriate topic within child psychiatry.

22 **(6)** Beginning on January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, an organization
23 that provides consultation services through the consultation program under this
24 section shall report all of the following to the department in a format required by and
25 on a form created by the department:

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1 (a) A record of each request for consultation services that includes all of the
2 following information:

3 1. The form of communication used.

4 2. Medically applicable and appropriate background information related to the
5 inquiry, limited to all of the following:

6 a. A brief description of the presenting problem.

7 b. The reason for the request for consultation services.

8 c. Basic demographic information of the patient served, including insurance
9 coverage.

10 d. Type of clinician requesting consultation service.

11 3. Information on the consultation provided, including whether the
12 consultation was provided on diagnosis, treatment, or medication management and
13 whether any referral is given.

14 4. Information on which type of mental health professional provided the
15 consultation.

16 (b) Consultation service response times, the total number of requests for
17 consultation services, the total number of cases for which consultation services are
18 provided, and the total number of individuals and practices requesting consultation
19 services.

20 (c) A description of the recruitment and educational efforts conducted by the
21 organization providing consultation services.

22 **(7)** (a) The department shall conduct annual surveys of participating clinicians
23 who use the consultation program under this section to assess the amount of
24 pediatric mental health care provided, self-perceived levels of confidence in

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1 providing pediatric mental health services, and the satisfaction with the
2 consultations and the educational opportunities provided.

3 (b) Immediately after a clinical practice group begins using the consultation
4 program under this section and again 6 to 12 months later, the department shall
5 conduct an interview of participating clinicians from that practice group to assess
6 the barriers to and benefits of participation to make future improvements and to
7 determine the participating clinician's treatment abilities, confidence, and
8 awareness of relevant resources before and after using the consultation program.

9 (c) The department may collect additional data on the consultation program
10 under this section as needed to measure program outcomes.

11 **SECTION 5. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on the day after publication,
12 except as follows:

13 (1) The repeal of section 20.435 (5) (bw) of the statutes takes effect on July 1,
14 2015.

15 (END)