



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 359

Senate Amendments 1 and 2

Memo published: January 16, 2014

Contact: Laura Rose, Deputy Director (266-9791)

Senate Bill 359 requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create and administer a child psychiatry consultation program to assist participating clinicians in providing enhanced care to pediatric patients with mental health care needs, to provide referral support for those patients, and to provide additional services.

Senate Amendment 1

Pediatric Patients Served

The bill specifies that the program must assist clinicians in providing care to pediatric patients with mild to moderate mental health care needs, and provide referral support for those pediatric patients who need care that is beyond the scope of primary care practice.

Senate Amendment 1 provides instead that the program must assist clinicians in providing care to pediatric patients with mental health care needs, and provide referral support for pediatric patients.

Location of Individuals Providing Consultation Services

The bill requires that any individual who provides consulting services under the program must be located on-site at the facility of the organization that is the provider of consultation services under the program. Assembly Amendment 1 provides instead that any individual who provides consulting services must be located in Wisconsin.

Staffing Requirements for Organizations Providing Consultation Services

The bill requires an organization providing consultation services under the program to maintain all of the following staffing at adequate levels:

- A psychiatrist, who is either eligible for certification or certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc., for either adult psychiatry or child and adolescent psychiatry, or both.
- A social worker or psychologist.
- A care coordinator.
- Appropriate administrative support.

Senate Amendment 1 also provides that an organization that provides consulting services under the program must have a psychiatrist on staff. However, instead of specifying the other required types of staff, Senate Amendment 1 requires that the organization “has and maintains additional staff as specified by the department.”

Reporting Requirements for Organizations Providing Consultation Services

The bill requires each organization that provides consultation services to provide an annual report to DHS containing all of the following: a record of each request for consultation services including certain information specified in the bill; consultation service response times, the total number of requests for consultation services, the total number of cases for which consultation services are provided, and the total number of individuals and practices requesting consultation services; and a description of the recruitment and educational efforts conducted by the consultation provider. The bill also authorizes DHS to collect additional data on the consultation program as needed to measure program outcomes.

Senate Amendment 1 replaces the reporting requirement in the bill with a requirement that each organization that provides consultation services must report to DHS any information requested by DHS.

Appropriations

Senate Bill 359 creates an appropriation line for the program and repeals it as of July 1, 2015. Senate Amendment 1 eliminates the repeal of the appropriation line.

Regional Hubs

Senate Bill 359 requires DHS to designate one urban and one rural regional program hub. Assembly Amendment 1 provides instead that DHS must determine the number of hubs to be created, and eliminates the requirement that there be one urban hub and one rural hub.

Senate Amendment 2

Senate Bill 359 provides that an organization providing consultation services may provide second opinion diagnostic and medication management evaluations, and that these services are eligible

for funding from DHS. Under the bill, these evaluations may be conducted by a psychiatrist, a social worker, or psychologist.

Senate Amendment 2 provides that diagnostic and medication management evaluations may also be conducted by a registered nurse with psychiatric training.

Bill History

Senate Amendments 1 and 2 were offered by Senator Darling on January 8, 2014. On January 15, 2014, the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendments 1 and 2 and passage of the bill, as amended, on successive votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

LR:ksm