



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 531

LCO No. 1880

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-239 of the general statutes, as amended by
2 sections 11 and 66 of public act 01-2 of the June special session, sections
3 1 and 2 of public act 01-3 of the June special session and sections 119,
4 120, 121 and 129 of public act 01-9 of the June special session, is
5 amended by adding subsections (h) and (i) as follows: (*Effective from*
6 *passage*):

7 (NEW) (h) The commissioner shall establish a schedule of rates for
8 hospital outpatient mental health services for the rate period beginning
9 July 1, 2002, and for each succeeding rate period, which shall be equal
10 to ninety per cent of the Medicare physician fee schedule in effect on
11 the first day of the rate period.

12 (NEW) (i) The commissioner shall establish a schedule of rates for
13 partial hospitalization services provided by acute care hospitals as
14 follows: (1) For the rate period beginning July 1, 2002, the rates shall be

15 equal to the rates paid as of October 1, 2001, for partial hospitalization
16 services provided in freestanding psychiatric hospitals plus an
17 inflation factor equal to the Medicare market basket inflation rate as
18 published in the previous September federal register with the wage
19 portion of such market basket adjusted for the Hartford metropolitan
20 statistical area; (2) for the rate period beginning July 1, 2003, and for
21 each succeeding rate period, the rates for partial hospitalization
22 services shall be equal to the rates for the preceding rate period, plus
23 an inflation factor equal to the Medicare market basket inflation rate as
24 published in the previous September federal register of each year with
25 the wage portion of such market basket adjusted for the Hartford
26 metropolitan statistical area.

27 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 17b-263 of the general statutes is
28 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
29 *passage*):

30 (b) The rate paid for hospital outpatient mental health therapy
31 services, except for partial hospitalization and other comprehensive
32 services as defined by the commissioner, shall be that established in
33 subsection [(d)] (h) of section 17b-239, as amended by this act, for an
34 outpatient clinic visit. Payment for partial hospitalization services in
35 accordance with subsection (i) of section 17b-239, as amended by this
36 act, shall be considered payment in full for all outpatient mental health
37 services.

38 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social
39 Services shall establish a schedule of rates for outpatient mental health
40 services provided by community mental health clinics to Medicaid
41 recipients for the rate year beginning July 1, 2002, and for each
42 succeeding rate period, which shall be equal to ninety per cent of the
43 Medicare physician fee schedule in effect on the first day of the rate
44 year, as established pursuant to Section 1848 of the Social Security Act,

45 42 USC Section 1395w-4(a).

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To increase Medicaid rates for mental health services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]