



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 877

January Session, 2011

* _____SB00877INS__022511_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH PARITY.

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

1 Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 38a-514 of the general
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective January 1, 2012*):

4 (a) Except as provided in subsection (j) of this section, each group
5 health insurance policy, providing coverage of the type specified in
6 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469, delivered,
7 issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state [on or
8 after January 1, 2000,] shall provide benefits for the diagnosis and
9 treatment of mental or nervous conditions. For the purposes of this
10 section, "mental or nervous conditions" means mental disorders, as
11 defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric
12 Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".
13 "Mental or nervous conditions" does not include (1) mental
14 retardation, (2) learning disorders, (3) motor skills disorders, (4)
15 communication disorders, (5) caffeine-related disorders, (6) relational
16 problems, and (7) additional conditions that may be a focus of clinical
17 attention, that are not otherwise defined as mental disorders in the
18 most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's
19 "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".

20 (b) (1) No such group policy shall establish any terms, conditions or

21 benefits that place a greater financial burden on an insured for access
22 to diagnosis or treatment of mental or nervous conditions than for
23 diagnosis or treatment of medical, surgical or other physical health
24 conditions.

25 (2) Each such group policy, other than a policy for a small employer,
26 as defined in section 38a-564, shall comply with the provisions set
27 forth in the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity
28 and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, P.L. 110-343, as amended from time
29 to time, and the regulations adopted thereunder.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | January 1, 2012 | 38a-514(a) and (b) |

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*