



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5371

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 1861



Referred to Committee on PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS

Introduced by:
(PRI)

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE STUDY ON ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT FOR INSURED YOUTH AS THEY RELATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Departments of Mental Health
2 and Addiction Services, Public Health and Children and Families shall
3 jointly develop a proposal to establish an urgent care center for
4 individuals with behavioral health concerns to be operated by both
5 public and private entities. Said departments shall submit the
6 proposal, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to
7 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
8 cognizance of matters relating to public health and children not later
9 than February 1, 2015.

10 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Children and
11 Families shall require each entity providing professional services for a
12 child or youth receiving services under the voluntary services program
13 operated by the department to record, for a three-month period to be

14 prescribed by the department:

15 (1) The name of the insurance carrier, if applicable, of any such child
16 or youth whose parent or legal guardian seeks treatment for such child
17 or youth through a program offered by an in-home behavioral health
18 care service, or the name of the parent or legal guardian's employer if
19 the employer's health care plan is self-insured;

20 (2) (A) If such child or youth was accepted into the program,
21 whether (i) the insurance carrier agreed to cover the treatment, and (ii)
22 such child or youth participated in the program; or

23 (B) If such child or youth was not accepted into the program, (i) the
24 cost of treatment for such child or youth, and (ii) whether the denial of
25 coverage was due to exceeding the coverage limits of the insurance
26 policy; and

27 (3) If such child or youth was accepted into the program and
28 participated in such program, and the carrier agreed to such coverage,
29 the terms of the cost-sharing agreement.

30 (b) Each entity providing professional services for a child or youth
31 receiving services under the voluntary services program operated by
32 the department shall submit the information recorded pursuant to
33 subsection (a) of this section to the department on a date to be
34 prescribed by the department, provided such date is not later than
35 February 1, 2015.

36 (c) The department shall analyze the information submitted by such
37 entities pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to assess (1) the
38 accessibility of in-home behavioral health care services to insured
39 children or youth, (2) the extent to which costs of such services are
40 shifted to the state and the state's contracted nonprofit service
41 providers, and (3) if the department determines that the costs shifted
42 to the state and such providers is excessive, methods to alleviate the
43 burden on the state and such providers.

44 (d) The department shall report the results of its assessment, in
45 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
46 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
47 matters relating to insurance and children not later than April 1, 2015.

48 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Departments of Mental Health
49 and Addiction Services and Children and Families shall develop a
50 substance abuse recovery support plan to provide services to
51 adolescents and young adults throughout the state. The plan shall
52 include, but not be limited to, (1) methods to increase community
53 support for such adolescents and young adults, (2) methods to alert
54 such adolescents and young adults that such support is available, and
55 (3) options for the implementation of such plan, including securing
56 access to public and private funding for such plan.

57 (b) The departments shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of
58 the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General
59 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and public
60 health on the status of the support plan not later than January 15, 2016.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PRI *Joint Favorable*