

Insuser

From: Chelsea Boska <cboska@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 4:08 PM
To: INSTestimony
Subject: HB 6887

To Senator Kelly, Senator Larson, Representative Scanlon, and other members of the Insurance Committee:

My name is Chelsea McIntosh and I am a resident of Bridgeport, CT. I work as a licensed psychologist for a community health center in Norwalk, Connecticut. I am writing in regards to to HB 6887, An Act Expanding Coverage for Mental Health Care Services and Substance Abuse Services.

As a psychologist working for a community health center, I have 30 to 45 minutes to meet with my clients on a bi-weekly to weekly basis. Our agency works with underserved individuals, many of whom are unemployed or underemployed, and are experiencing co-morbid emotional health diagnoses. My clients' emotional health is largely impacted by environmental stressors in their life, including access to housing, obtaining employment, and overall financial strain. A lot of the work I do with my clients involves case management outside of session, work that is not billable, to connect my clients to needed services such as substance abuse treatment, housing and employment support, and other resources to directly serve my clients in areas that significantly affect their emotional health.

I would like to be able to refer my clients to a case manager who is able to bill for their services and assist the client in the above areas. This allows me to focus on the work that I am trained to do, as well as assist my clients in meeting their needs that significantly contribute to their emotional health.

I urge you to support the above crucial service for the residents of this state,

Thank you for considering my perspective.

-Chelsea McIntosh, PsyD