



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 8431



Offered by:

REP. GILCHREST, 18th Dist.

REP. HALL, 7th Dist.

REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5677

File No. 427

Cal. No. 319

(As Amended)

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY VIOLENCE PREVENTION SERVICES UNDER MEDICAID."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Community violence" means intentional acts of interpersonal
5 violence committed in public areas by individuals who are not family
6 members or intimate partners of the victim;

7 (2) "Community violence prevention services" means evidence-
8 based, trauma-informed, supportive and nonpsychotherapeutic
9 services provided by a certified violence prevention professional, within
10 or outside of a clinical setting, for the purpose of promoting improved
11 health outcomes and positive behavioral change, preventing injury

12 recidivism and reducing the likelihood that individuals who are victims
13 of community violence will commit or promote violence themselves.
14 "Community violence prevention services" may include the provision of
15 peer support and counseling, mentorship, conflict mediation, crisis
16 intervention, targeted case management, referrals to certified or licensed
17 health care professionals or social services providers, patient education
18 or screening services to victims of community violence;

19 (3) "Interpersonal violence" means the intentional use of physical
20 force or power against other persons by an individual or small group of
21 individuals;

22 (4) "Prevention professional" has the same meaning as described by
23 the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC), or its successor, under
24 NUCC Code Number 405300000X; and

25 (5) "Certified violence prevention professional" means a prevention
26 professional who meets all of the conditions specified in subsection (c)
27 of this section.

28 (b) (1) On or before July 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Social Services,
29 shall amend the Medicaid state plan to make community violence
30 prevention services available, to the extent permitted by federal law, to
31 any Medicaid beneficiary who has: (A) Received medical treatment for
32 an injury sustained as a result of an act of community violence, and (B)
33 been referred by a certified or licensed health care provider or social
34 services provider to receive community violence prevention services
35 from a qualified violence prevention professional, after such provider
36 determines such beneficiary to be at elevated risk of a violent injury or
37 retaliation resulting from another act of community violence.

38 (2) The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek any federal
39 approvals necessary to implement this section, including, but not
40 limited to, any state plan amendments or federal waivers by the federal
41 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This subsection shall be
42 implemented only to the extent that federal financial participation is
43 available, and any necessary federal approvals have been obtained.

44 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall be implemented only to the
45 extent permitted by federal law.

46 (c) Any prevention professional seeking certification as a certified
47 violence prevention professional shall complete an accredited training
48 and certification program for certified violence prevention
49 professionals, approved in accordance with subsection (d) of this section
50 and maintain such certification.

51 (d) On or before January 1, 2022, the Department of Public Health
52 shall approve at least one accredited training and certification program
53 for certified violence prevention professionals. Such program shall
54 include:

55 (1) At least thirty-five hours of initial training, collectively addressing
56 all of the following:

57 (A) The profound effects of trauma and violence and the basics of
58 trauma-informed care;

59 (B) Community violence prevention strategies, including, but not
60 limited to, conflict mediation and retaliation prevention related to
61 community violence;

62 (C) Case management and advocacy practices; and

63 (D) Patient privacy and the federal Health Insurance Portability and
64 Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time,
65 (HIPAA); and

66 (2) At least six hours of continuing education every two years.

67 (e) Any entity that employs or contracts with a certified violence
68 prevention professional to provide community violence prevention
69 services shall:

70 (1) Maintain documentation that the certified violence prevention
71 professional has met all of the conditions described in subsection (c) of

72 this section; and

73 (2) Ensure that the certified violence prevention professional is
74 providing community violence prevention services in compliance with
75 any applicable standards of care, rules, regulations and governing law
76 of the state or federal government.

77 (f) No person, unless certified as a violence prevention professional
78 pursuant to this section, may use the title "certified violence prevention
79 professional" or make use of any title, words, letters, abbreviations or
80 insignia indicating or implying that he or she is a certified violence
81 prevention professional.

82 (g) Nothing in this section shall alter the scope of practice for any
83 health care professional."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2021	New section