General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 7023

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **4736**

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE COACHES AND MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS UNDER A PEER SUPPORT TREATMENT MODEL.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025)* (a) As used in this section, (1) "peer support services" means recovery-focused behavioral health services that allow an individual the opportunity to learn to manage such individual's recovery with help from a peer support specialist; and (2) "peer support specialist" means a person who (A) may have experience recovering from mental illness or substance use disorder, and (B) is certified to provide peer recovery support under a program administered by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid state plan to integrate peer support services into care teams funded under the medical assistance program and provide Medicaid reimbursement to peer support specialists for such services.

(c) Not later than August 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Social Services

shall file a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and public health on (1) the number of peer support specialists provided Medicaid reimbursement, (2) the number of Medicaid enrollees they serve, and (3) any outcome data on treatment provided by such specialists to such enrollees.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide Medicaid coverage for peer support 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.]