

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1072

5 By: Representative Sullivan
6 By: Senator J. Cooper
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REPEAL OUTCOME MEASURES TESTING WITHIN THE
10 DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES OF THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO REPEAL OUTCOME MEASURES TESTING WITHIN
15 THE DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
16 SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
17 SERVICES.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-47-705 is amended to read as follows:
24 20-47-705. Behavioral ~~health care~~ healthcare initiatives.

25 The Department of Human Services, with advice from the Children's
26 Behavioral Health Care Commission, shall:

27 (1) Identify and implement actions for ensuring that children,
28 youth, and their families are full partners in the design and implementation
29 of all aspects of the system of care as well as full partners in decisions
30 about their care or their child's care;

31 (2) Identify up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per year to
32 apply to the following purposes:

33 (A) Meeting extraordinary, non-Medicaid-reimbursable needs
34 of children, youth, and their families, as identified in multi-agency plans
35 of services;

36 (B) Supporting creation or strengthening of entities



1 designed to guide the development and operation of local, regional, and state
2 components of the system of care;

3 (C) Strengthening family and advocate skills and capacity
4 to provide meaningful input on the system of care; and

5 (D) Supporting the development and enhancement of needed
6 behavioral ~~health care~~ healthcare services in underserved areas;

7 (3) Revise Medicaid rules and regulations to increase quality,
8 accountability, and appropriateness of Medicaid-reimbursed behavioral ~~health~~
9 ~~care~~ healthcare services, including, but not limited to:

10 (A) Clarifying behavioral ~~health care~~ healthcare services
11 definitions to assure that the definitions are appropriate to the needs of
12 children, youth, and their families;

13 (B) Revising the process for Medicaid to receive, review,
14 and act upon requests for behavioral health care for children and youth
15 classified as seriously emotionally disturbed;

16 (C) Clarifying Medicaid certification rules for providers
17 serving children, youth, and their families to assure that the certification
18 rules correlate with the requirements for enrollment as a Medicaid provider
19 of behavioral ~~health care~~ healthcare services;

20 (D)(i) Defining a standardized screening and assessment
21 process designed to provide early identification of conditions that require
22 behavioral ~~health care~~ healthcare services.

23 (ii) The standardized process shall ensure that:

24 (i) Assessments guide service decisions, outcomes,
25 and, if appropriate, development of a multi-agency plan of services; and

26 (ii) Services delivered are appropriate to meet the
27 needs of the child as identified by the assessment;

28 (4) Research, identify, and implement innovative and promising
29 local, regional, or statewide approaches for better managing the state's
30 resources devoted to children's behavioral health; and

31 (5) Create additional capacity within the Division of Behavioral
32 Health Services to develop, support, and oversee the new system of care for
33 behavioral health services for children, including+

34 ~~(A) Developing an outcomes-based data system to support an~~
35 ~~improved system of tracking, accountability, and decision making; and~~

36 ~~(B) Creating~~ creating additional staff support to provide

1 technical assistance, utilize information, identify and encourage best
2 practices, monitor performance, and recommend system improvements.

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