

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. d. S.

L.D. 1814

DATE: *May 22, 1997*

(Filing No. S-3/2)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by: *Senator Longley*

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 615, L.D. 1814, Bill, "An Act to Improve the Delivery of Mental Health Services in Maine"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §3608, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 691, §7, is amended to read:

The department shall establish and oversee networks to participate with the area councils, as defined in section 3607, subsection 2, in the delivery of mental health services to children and adults under the authority of the department. A network consists of ~~persons--and~~ organizations providing mental health services ~~under--contract--or--grant--from--the--department~~ funded by the General Fund and Medicaid in the corresponding area specified in section 3607, subsection 3. The local service networks must be established and operated in accordance with standards that are consistent with standards adopted by accredited health care organizations and other standards adopted by the department to establish and operate networks. Oversight must include, but is not limited to, establishing and overseeing protocols, quality assurance, writing and monitoring contracts for service, establishing outcome measures and ensuring that each network provides an integrated system of care. The department may adopt rules to carry out this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A. This section may not be construed to supersede the authority of the Department of Human Services as the single state Medicaid agency under the Social Security Act, Title XII or to affect the professional standards and practices of nonnetwork providers.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §3608, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Data collection. The department shall collect data to assess the capacity of the local service networks, including, but not limited to, analyses of utilization of mental health services and the unmet needs of persons receiving publicly funded mental health services.

Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA §3610 is enacted to read:

§3610. Safety net services

The department is responsible for providing a safety net of adult mental health services for people with major mental illness who the department or its designee determines can not otherwise be served by the local service networks. The department may develop contracts to deliver safety net services if the department determines contracts to be appropriate and cost-effective. The state-operated safety net must include, but is not limited to:

A. Backup emergency hospital beds for people requiring medical stabilization, assessment or treatment;

B. Intermediate and long-term treatment for people who need long-term structured care;

C. Forensic services;

D. Intensive case management; and

E. Other services determined by the commissioner to be needed.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services will incur some additional costs to provide a state operated safety net of services, including back-up emergency beds and intermediate and long-term treatment. These costs can be met within the department's existing budgeted resources given the appropriation and position transfer authority contained in Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part VV.

The additional costs associated with assessing the local service networks' capacity can be absorbed by the Department of

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 615, L.D. 1814

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utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

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SUMMARY

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8 This amendment clarifies the application of professional
standards to nonmembers of the local service networks. It
10 specifies the responsibility of the Department of Mental Health,
Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to provide a
safety net of services for adult mental health consumers. It
12 requires the department to collect data on mental health service
utilization and unmet needs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT