

Chapter: 79

Session: 2017 Regular Session

Topic: Mental health services and mental health practitioners

Analyst: Sarah Sunderman

Date: June 8, 2017

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

This act modifies requirements for mental health practitioners providing day treatment services, and expands who may be permitted to use restrictive procedures when providing children's mental health services. The act also allows medical assistance payment for practitioners to develop a child's mental health service plan prior to completing a child's individual treatment plan, and modifies which settings are eligible for medical assistance payment for children's therapeutic services and supports.

Section

- 1 **Mental health practitioner.** Amends § 245.462, subd. 17. Changes the definition of "mental health practitioner" to include a person with a bachelor's degree in behavioral sciences or related fields who is working in a day treatment program.
- 2 **Mental health practitioner.** Amends § 245.4871, subd. 26. Lists bachelor's degree subjects in behavioral sciences or related fields.
- 3 **Allowable procedures.** Amends § 245.8261, subd. 4. Expands who may be permitted to use restrictive procedures when providing children's mental health services, to include program staff who have completed training, acting under the clinical supervision of a mental health professional.
- 4 **Certified peer specialist training and certification.** Amends § 256B.0615, subd. 5. Removes requirement for certified peer specialists to have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- 5 **Certified family peer specialist training and certification.** Amends § 256B.0616, subd. 5. Removes requirement for certified family peer specialists to have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Section

- 6** **Definitions.** Amends § 256B.0943, subd. 1. Removes requirement of 2,000 hours of supervised experience for a mental health practitioner working in a children's therapeutic services and supports day treatment program, if the practitioner completes 40 hours of training within six months of employment, and receives weekly clinical supervision until meeting the 2,000 hours requirement.
- 7** **Service delivery criteria.** Amends § 256B.0943, subd. 9. Specifies that medical assistance covers mental health service plan development before a child's individual treatment plan is completed. Specifies that service plan development will only be covered if a treatment plan is actually completed, and that the commissioner will recover payment if a treatment plan is not completed.
- 8** **Exception to excluded services.** Amends § 256B.0943, subd. 13. Removes group homes from settings in which a child with severe emotional disturbance may receive children's therapeutic services and supports under medical assistance. Adds psychiatric residential treatment facilities.