

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 455
Version: As introduced

DATE: February 15, 2013

Authors: Schoen and others

Subject: Chemical health navigation program

Analyst: Lynn F. Aves

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/hrd.htm.

Overview

This bill establishes a chemical health navigation program that will allow interested counties to enter into agreements with the commissioner of human services to use chemical dependency treatment funds to provide treatment and nontreatment services to eligible clients.

Section

1 Chemical health navigation program. Creates § 254B.14.

Subd. 1. Establishment; purpose. Paragraph (a) requires DHS to work with interested counties to enhance the delivery of chemical health services.

Paragraph (b) provides that the program must be tailored to meet the service needs of the client.

Paragraph (c) requires navigation programs to maintain current consolidated chemical dependency treatment fund (CCDTF) eligibility requirements, comply with rules related to licensure of chemical health treatment facilities and rules related to level of care determinations, and provide services in a manner that will not put federal funding at risk.

Subd. 2. Program implementation. Paragraph (a) provides that county participation is voluntary.

Paragraph (b) requires participating counties to enter into an agreement with the commissioner governing program operation. Requires each county to implement its

Section

program within 60 days of the final agreement.

Subd. 3. Notice of program discontinuation. Allows either party to discontinue participation for any reason after 30 days' written notice to the other party. Provides that funds allocated to the county that remain unspent shall be transferred to the CCDTF.

Subd. 4. Eligibility for navigator program. Lists the eligibility criteria a prospective client must meet in order to participate in a navigator program.

Subd. 5. Duties of the commissioner. Paragraph (a) allows the commissioner to authorize navigator programs to use the CCDTF for nontreatment services.

Paragraph (b) allows participating counties to enter into contracts with providers to provide nontreatment services.

Paragraph (c) defines "nontreatment services."

Paragraph (d) limits state expenditures for services provided through the navigator programs to no more than the CCDTF expected share in the absence of the programs.

Paragraph (e) provides that if the expenses incurred by a participating county are less than the forecast expenditures, the commissioner must deposit the unexpended funds in a separate account in the CCDTF for use by the county in the following year. If expenses exceed the forecast expenditures, then the county is responsible for the portion of costs for nontreatment services that were spent.

Paragraph (f) allows the commissioner to waive administrative rules, except the rule requiring a licensed treatment provider to provide chemical dependency treatment.

Paragraph (g) prohibits the commissioner from entering into any agreement that puts federal funding at risk.

Paragraph (f) requires the commissioner to provide participating counties with specified data at least once every six months so that the counties can assess and measure outcomes.

Subd. 6. Duties of the county board. Requires the county board in participating counties to administer the program consistent with this section, ensure that no one who is otherwise eligible for chemical dependency services is denied services, and provide the commissioner with information as negotiated in the navigator agreement.

Subd. 7. Managed care. Paragraph (a) excludes navigator participants from mandatory enrollment in managed care.

Paragraph (b) instructs the commissioner to seek federal waivers to allow managed care organizations to use capitated funds to access nontreatment services.

Section

Subd. 8. Report. Requires the commissioner to provide an annual report on navigator program outcomes to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over chemical health.

Effective date. Provides an immediate effective date.