

**Subject** Critical access mental health services rate increase

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## Summary

Under section 256B.763, specified mental health services provided by certain providers are eligible for a higher medical assistance payment rate. “Critical access” providers are identified as psychiatrists and advanced practice registered nurses with a psychiatric specialty, community mental health centers, certified mental health clinics, and outpatient hospital psychiatric departments that are designated as essential community providers.

This bill increases medical assistance payment rates by 23.7 percent for the following critical access services, when provided by *non-critical access providers* who are licensed independent clinical social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed professional clinical counselors, and licensed psychologists:

- group skills training when provided as a component of children's therapeutic services and supports;
- psychotherapy;
- medication management;
- evaluation and management;
- diagnostic assessment;
- explanation of findings;
- psychological testing;
- neuropsychological services;
- direction of behavioral aides; and
- inpatient consultation.