

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Health & Human Services.

HB25-1132 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and
2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal and reenact,**
4 **with amendments,** 28-5-714 as follows:

5 **28-5-714. Veterans mental health services program -**
6 **community behavioral health program grants - rules - definitions.**

7 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
8 REQUIRES:

9 (a) "ARMED FORCES" MEANS THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE,
10 MARINE CORPS, SPACE FORCE, AND COAST GUARD OF THE UNITED
11 STATES.

12 (b) "BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION" OR "BHA" MEANS
13 THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
14 HUMAN SERVICES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-50-102.

15 (c) "DIVISION" MEANS THE DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE
16 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS.

17 (d) "ELIGIBLE VETERAN" MEANS A VETERAN, AS DEFINED IN
18 SECTION 28-5-100.3, WHO LIVES IN A VETERANS COMMUNITY LIVING
19 CENTER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-12-102.

20 (e) "HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL" MEANS:

21 (I) A LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST REGULATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE
22 240 OF TITLE 12;

23 (II) A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST OR PSYCHOLOGIST CANDIDATE
24 REGULATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 245 OF TITLE 12;

25 (III) A LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER, LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL
26 WORKER, OR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER CANDIDATE REGULATED
27 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 245 OF TITLE 12;

28 (IV) A LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST OR MARRIAGE
29 AND FAMILY THERAPIST CANDIDATE REGULATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE
30 245 OF TITLE 12;

31 (V) A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR OR LICENSED
32 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CANDIDATE REGULATED PURSUANT TO
33 ARTICLE 245 OF TITLE 12;

34 (VI) A LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR, CERTIFIED ADDICTION
35 SPECIALIST, OR ADDICTION COUNSELOR CANDIDATE REGULATED
36 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 245 OF TITLE 12;

37 (VII) AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE LICENSED
38 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 255 OF TITLE 12;

39 (VIII) AN ACUPUNCTURIST LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 200
40 OF TITLE 12;

41 (IX) A MASSAGE THERAPIST LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 235
42 OF TITLE 12;

1 (X) A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO IS CERTIFIED IN THE
2 PRACTICE OF USING TOUCH OR HEALING TOUCH TO AFFECT THE HUMAN
3 ENERGY SYSTEMS; OR
4 (XI) A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO IS CERTIFIED IN
5 CRANIOSACRAL THERAPIES.
6 (f) "SERVICE MEMBER" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS:
7 (I) AN ACTIVE-DUTY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES;
8 (II) A MEMBER OF THE RESERVE FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;
9 OR
10 (III) A MEMBER OF THE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL
11 GUARD.
12 (g) "TELEHEALTH" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN
13 SECTION 10-16-123.
14 (h) "VETERAN" MEANS A PERSON WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED
15 FORCES, THE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL GUARD, OR THE
16 RESERVE FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES AND WHO WAS DISCHARGED OR
17 RELEASED FROM SERVICE.
18 (2) (a) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE DIVISION A VETERANS
19 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO MENTAL
20 HEALTH SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS BY REIMBURSING
21 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS FOR SESSIONS WITH AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN.
22 (b) THE DIVISION SHALL REIMBURSE A HEALTH-CARE
23 PROFESSIONAL WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH
24 SERVICES PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSIONS, EITHER IN
25 PERSON OR THROUGH TELEHEALTH, WITH ELIGIBLE VETERANS. EACH
26 ELIGIBLE VETERAN MAY RECEIVE TWENTY-SIX REIMBURSED SESSIONS PER
27 YEAR.
28 (c) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, AN ELIGIBLE
29 VETERAN MAY RECEIVE AND THE DIVISION SHALL REIMBURSE A
30 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL FOR:
31 (I) ADDITIONAL REIMBURSED SESSIONS IF A HEALTH-CARE
32 PROFESSIONAL DETERMINES ADDITIONAL SESSIONS ARE NECESSARY; AND
33 (II) COMPLEMENTARY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING,
34 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ACUPUNCTURE, HEALING TOUCH THERAPY, MASSAGE
35 THERAPY, ACUPRESSURE, AND CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY FOR THE PURPOSE
36 OF SUPPORTING AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN'S MENTAL HEALTH WHEN PROVIDED
37 BY A QUALIFIED HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL.
38 (d) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN AND RECEIVE
39 REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
40 PROGRAM, A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL MUST BE AVAILABLE TO
41 PROVIDE AT LEAST FOUR MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSIONS TO EACH
42 ELIGIBLE VETERAN THE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS AS A
43 CLIENT.
44 (e) THE DIVISION SHALL:

1 (I) DEVELOP A PROCESS CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
2 THIS SECTION FOR HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS TO APPLY FOR AND
3 DEMONSTRATE ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE
4 VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM;
5 (II) UPON REIMBURSING A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL FOR A
6 MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSION WITH AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN, INFORM THE
7 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL OF THE VETERAN'S REMAINING NUMBER OF
8 SESSIONS ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT THAT YEAR; AND
9 (III) DETERMINE A REASONABLE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR
10 EACH MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSION WITH AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN
11 PURSUANT TO THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM, WHICH
12 RATE MUST BE THE SAME REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE APPOINTMENT IS
13 IN-PERSON OR THROUGH TELEHEALTH.
14 (f) THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD
15 OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, SHALL ADOPT RULES NECESSARY FOR THE
16 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).
17 (3) FOR EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL
18 APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE
19 VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM. THE FIRST SIX HUNDRED
20 THOUSAND DOLLARS MUST BE USED FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS.
21 (4) (a) THE BHA SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DIVISION TO
22 CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
23 PROGRAM USING THE MONEY TRANSFERRED PURSUANT TO SECTION
24 39-37-301 (2)(a)(II) TO THE BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CASH
25 FUND, CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-230 (2)(a), IN ACCORDANCE WITH
26 SECTION 24-75-230 (3.5).
27 (b) THE BHA SHALL POST ON ITS WEBSITE A LIST OF HEALTH-CARE
28 PROFESSIONALS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH
29 SERVICES PROGRAM.
30 (5) (a) IN EXPANDING THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
31 PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE BHA
32 SHALL PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO
33 ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS
34 THAT PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS,
35 VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.
36 (b) IF A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVES A GRANT
37 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND THE ORGANIZATION CONTINUES
38 TO MEET PERFORMANCE METRICS DEVELOPED BY THE BHA, THE BHA
39 MAY DISTRIBUTE AN ADDITIONAL GRANT TO THE LOCAL NONPROFIT
40 ORGANIZATION WITHOUT REQUIRING THE ORGANIZATION TO REAPPLY FOR
41 THE GRANT.
42 (c) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
43 MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BHA IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES
44 ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BHA.

1 (d) IN ITS APPLICATION, A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SHALL
2 DEMONSTRATE THAT THE ORGANIZATION:
3 (I) SERVES THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF SERVICE MEMBERS,
4 VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS
5 IN THE LOCALITY SERVED BY THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;
6 (II) UTILIZES EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES;
7 (III) INTEGRATES MILITARY CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING
8 FOR THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION'S STAFF; AND
9 (IV) HAS ESTABLISHED AND VERIFIABLE COMMUNITY
10 PARTNERSHIPS TO DELIVER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ALONG THE
11 CONTINUUM OF CARE TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR
12 FAMILY MEMBERS.
13 (e) THE BHA SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDED GRANTS TO A GRANT
14 APPLICANT THAT:
15 (I) APPLIES FOR A GRANT TO SUPPORT THE OPERATING COSTS FOR
16 A QUALIFYING PROJECT, AS DETERMINED BY THE BHA, FOR WHICH
17 CAPITAL INVESTMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE;
18 (II) PROVIDES CULTURALLY COMPETENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
19 SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF
20 SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS;
21 (III) HAS THE ABILITY TO SUBMIT DATA THAT THE BHA
22 DETERMINES IS NECESSARY TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF THE GRANT
23 PROGRAM; AND
24 (IV) DEMONSTRATES A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION WITH, AND
25 PROVIDING SERVICES FOR, MILITARY AND VETERANS COMMUNITY
26 ORGANIZATIONS IN COLORADO.
27 (f) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BHA SHALL ADOPT RULES AS
28 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION (5), INCLUDING
29 PERFORMANCE METRICS FOR LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT
30 RECEIVE A GRANT.
31 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
32 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
33 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
34 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
35 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
36 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
37 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
38 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
39 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor."

40 Page 1, line 102, strike "PROGRAM." and substitute "PROGRAM IN THE
41 VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM."

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