

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:

(I) DEVELOP A PROCESS CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS TO APPLY FOR AND DEMONSTRATE ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM;

(II) UPON REIMBURSING A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL FOR A MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSION WITH AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN, INFORM THE HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL OF THE VETERAN'S REMAINING NUMBER OF SESSIONS ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT THAT YEAR; AND

(III) DETERMINE A REASONABLE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR EACH MENTAL HEALTH-CARE SESSION WITH AN ELIGIBLE VETERAN PURSUANT TO THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM, WHICH RATE MUST BE THE SAME REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE APPOINTMENT IS IN-PERSON OR THROUGH TELEHEALTH.

(f) THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, SHALL ADOPT RULES NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).

(3) FOR EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM. THE FIRST SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS MUST BE USED FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS.

(4) (a) THE BHA SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DIVISION TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM USING THE MONEY TRANSFERRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 39-37-301 (2)(a)(II) TO THE BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CASH FUND, CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-230 (2)(a), IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-230 (3.5).

(b) THE BHA SHALL POST ON ITS WEBSITE A LIST OF HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM.

(5) (a) IN EXPANDING THE VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE BHA SHALL PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.

(b) IF A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND THE ORGANIZATION CONTINUES TO MEET PERFORMANCE METRICS DEVELOPED BY THE BHA, THE BHA MAY DISTRIBUTE AN ADDITIONAL GRANT TO THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION WITHOUT REQUIRING THE ORGANIZATION TO REAPPLY FOR THE GRANT.

(c) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BHA IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BHA.

(d) IN ITS APPLICATION, A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SHALL DEMONSTRATE THAT THE ORGANIZATION:

(I) SERVES THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS IN THE LOCALITY SERVED BY THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;

(II) UTILIZES EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES;

(III) INTEGRATES MILITARY CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING FOR THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION'S STAFF; AND

(IV) HAS ESTABLISHED AND VERIFIABLE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO DELIVER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ALONG THE CONTINUUM OF CARE TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.

(e) THE BHA SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDING GRANTS TO A GRANT APPLICANT THAT:

(I) APPLIES FOR A GRANT TO SUPPORT THE OPERATING COSTS FOR A QUALIFYING PROJECT, AS DETERMINED BY THE BHA, FOR WHICH CAPITAL INVESTMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE;

(II) PROVIDES CULTURALLY COMPETENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS;

(III) HAS THE ABILITY TO SUBMIT DATA THAT THE BHA DETERMINES IS NECESSARY TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF THE GRANT PROGRAM; AND

(IV) DEMONSTRATES A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION WITH, AND PROVIDING SERVICES FOR, MILITARY AND VETERANS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN COLORADO.

(f) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BHA SHALL ADOPT RULES AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION (5), INCLUDING PERFORMANCE METRICS FOR LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVE A GRANT.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.".

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

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