

House File 556 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 556
BY KRESSIG, BROWN-POWERS,
R. SMITH, and
WESSEL-KROESCHELL

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to third-party payment of coverage benefits for
2 mental health services delivered at a school.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 514C.35 **Mental health services**
2 **provided at a school — coverage.**

3 1. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
4 requires:

5 a. "*Facility*", "*health care professional*", and "*health care*
6 *services*" mean the same as defined in section 514J.102.

7 b. "*Mental health services*" means services provided by a
8 health care professional operating within the scope of the
9 health care professional's practice which address mental,
10 emotional, medical, or behavioral conditions, illnesses,
11 diseases, or problems.

12 c. "*School*" means a public or private school that provides
13 premises for teaching any grade from kindergarten through grade
14 twelve.

15 2. Notwithstanding the uniformity of treatment requirements
16 of section 514C.6, a policy, contract, or plan providing for
17 third-party payment or prepayment of health or medical expenses
18 shall not discriminate between coverage benefits for mental
19 health services that are provided in a facility and the same or
20 similar mental health services that are provided at a school.

21 3. This section applies to the following classes of
22 third-party payment provider policies, contracts, or plans
23 delivered, issued for delivery, continued, or renewed in this
24 state on or after January 1, 2020:

25 a. Individual or group accident and sickness insurance
26 providing coverage on an expense-incurred basis.

27 b. An individual or group hospital or medical service
28 contract issued pursuant to chapter 509, 514, or 514A.

29 c. An individual or group health maintenance organization
30 contract regulated under chapter 514B.

31 d. A plan established pursuant to chapter 509A for public
32 employees.

33 4. This section shall not apply to accident-only,
34 specified disease, short-term hospital or medical, hospital
35 confinement indemnity, credit, dental, vision, Medicare

1 supplement, long-term care, basic hospital and medical-surgical
2 expense coverage as defined by the commissioner, disability
3 income insurance coverage, coverage issued as a supplement
4 to liability insurance, workers' compensation or similar
5 insurance, or automobile medical payment insurance.

6 5. The commissioner of insurance, in collaboration with the
7 state board of education, may adopt rules pursuant to chapter
8 17A as necessary to administer this section.

9 EXPLANATION

10 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
11 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

12 This bill relates to third-party payment of coverage
13 benefits for mental health services provided at a school. The
14 bill defines "mental health services" as services provided by
15 a health care professional operating within the scope of the
16 health professional's practice which address mental, emotional
17 medical, or behavioral conditions, illnesses, diseases, or
18 problems. "School" is defined in the bill as a public or
19 private school that provides premises for teaching any grade
20 from kindergarten through grade 12.

21 The bill requires a policy, contract, or plan providing for
22 third-party payment or prepayment of health or medical expenses
23 to provide the same coverage for covered mental health services
24 whether the mental health services are provided in a facility
25 or provided at a school. "Facility" is defined in the bill.
26 The commissioner of insurance, in collaboration with the state
27 board of education, may adopt rules to administer the Code
28 section.

29 The bill is applicable to third-party payment provider
30 policies, contracts, or plans delivered, issued for delivery,
31 continued, or renewed in this state on or after January 1,
32 2020, including individual or group accident and sickness
33 insurance providing coverage on an expense-incurred basis,
34 individual or group hospital or medical service contracts
35 issued pursuant to Code chapter 509, 514, or 514A, individual

1 or group health maintenance organization contracts regulated
2 under Code chapter 514B, and plans established pursuant to Code
3 chapter 509A for public employees.

4 The bill does not apply to accident-only, specified disease,
5 short-term hospital or medical, hospital confinement indemnity,
6 credit, dental, vision, Medicare supplement, long-term care,
7 basic hospital and medical-surgical expense coverage as defined
8 by the commissioner, disability income insurance coverage,
9 coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance,
10 workers' compensation or similar insurance, or automobile
11 medical payment insurance.