

Senate File 2202 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2202
BY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3083)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to subacute mental health care facilities and
2 services, and including effective date provisions.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 135G.1, subsection 12, paragraph c, Code
2 2026, is amended by striking the paragraph.

3 Sec. 2. Section 135G.3, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
4 following new subsection:

5 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. Within twenty-four hours of a
6 resident's admission to a subacute care facility, the subacute
7 care facility shall develop an initial treatment plan with the
8 resident.

9 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 135G.3A Insurance authorization.

10 1. If a mental health professional submits an electronic
11 request through an internet portal designated by the department
12 of health and human services for prior authorization for
13 insurance coverage for an individual's subacute mental health
14 care service under chapter 249A or chapter 249N, the department
15 of health and human services or the managed care organization
16 responsible for administering the individual's medical
17 assistance shall provide a determination to the mental health
18 professional for the preauthorization request as follows:

19 a. Within forty-eight hours after the date of receipt of an
20 urgent preauthorization request.

21 b. Within five calendar days after the date of receipt of a
22 nonurgent preauthorization request.

23 c. Within ten calendar days after the date of receipt of a
24 nonurgent preauthorization request involving complex or unique
25 circumstances.

26 2. The director of health and human services shall adopt
27 rules pursuant to chapter 17A as necessary to administer this
28 section.

29 Sec. 4. DEPARTMENTS OF INSPECTIONS, APPEALS, AND LICENSING
30 AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES — ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

31 REVIEW. The department of inspections, appeals, and licensing
32 and the department of health and human services shall do all
33 of the following:

34 1. Collaborate to review each department's administrative
35 rules adopted pursuant to section 135G.10 and eliminate any

1 rule the departments determine impedes any of the following
2 goals without providing an equal or greater benefit:

3 a. Establishment of new subacute mental health care
4 facilities and services.

5 b. Expansion of existing subacute mental health care
6 facilities and services.

7 c. Ease of access to subacute mental health care facilities
8 and services.

9 2. Modify the departments' respective rules so that the
10 requirements to employ an individual at a subacute mental
11 health care facility are less stringent than the requirements
12 for the same employment at a state mental health institute.

13 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
14 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

15

EXPLANATION

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

18 This bill relates to subacute mental health care (SMHC)
19 facilities and services.

20 The bill eliminates the requirement that SMHC must be
21 limited to a period of 10 calendar days unless a longer period
22 of time is adopted by the department of health and human
23 services (HHS).

24 The bill requires a subacute care facility to develop an
25 initial treatment care plan with a resident within 24 hours of
26 the resident's admission to the subacute care facility.

27 The bill requires HHS or the managed care organization
28 responsible for administering an individual's medical
29 assistance, upon a mental health professional's request for
30 prior authorization (request) through an internet portal
31 designated by HHS for insurance coverage of the individual's
32 SMHC service under Code chapter 249A (medical assistance)
33 or 249N (Iowa health and wellness plan), to provide a
34 determination to the mental health professional within 48 hours
35 after the date of the receipt of the request if the request is

1 urgent; within 5 calendar days after the date of the receipt
2 of the request if the request is nonurgent; and within 10
3 calendar days after the date of the receipt of the request
4 if the request is nonurgent and involves complex or unique
5 circumstances.

6 The bill directs the department of inspections, appeals,
7 and licensing (DIAL) and HHS to collaborate to review each
8 department's administrative rules and eliminate any rule
9 the departments determine impedes the establishment of new
10 SMHC facilities and services; expansion of existing SMHC
11 facilities and services; or ease of access to SMHC facilities
12 and services.

13 The bill requires HHS and DIAL to modify their respective
14 rules so that the requirements to employ an individual at
15 an SMHC facility are less stringent than those for the same
16 employment at a state mental health institute.

17 The bill takes effect upon enactment.