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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4563

03/04/2024 Authored by Vang
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Human Services Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; establishing the Mental Health and Substance Use
1.3 Disorder Education Center and the youth care professional training program;
1.4 modifying rules for mental health providers; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022,
1.5 sections 245.4663, subdivision 2; 245I.04, subdivision 6; proposing coding for
1.6 new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 144; 245.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. [144.88] MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER
1.9 EDUCATION CENTER.

1.10 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education
1.11 Center is established in the Department of Health. The purposes of the center are to increase
1.12 the number of professionals, practitioners, and peers working in mental health and substance
1.13 use disorder treatment; increase the diversity of professionals, practitioners, and peers
1.14 working in mental health and substance use disorder treatment; and facilitate a culturally
1.15 informed and responsive mental health and substance use disorder treatment workforce.

1.16 Subd. 2. Activities. The Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center
1.17 must:

1.18 (1) analyze the geographic and demographic availability of licensed mental health and
1.19 substance use disorder treatment professionals, identify gaps, and prioritize the need for
1.20 additional licensed professionals by type, location, and demographics;

1.21 (2) create a program that exposes high school and college students to careers in the
1.22 mental health and substance use disorder fields;

2.1 (3) create a website for individuals considering becoming a mental health provider that  
2.2 clearly labels the steps necessary to achieve licensure and certification in the various mental  
2.3 health fields and lists resources and links for more information;

2.4 (4) create a job board for organizations seeking employees to provide mental health and  
2.5 substance use disorder treatment, services, and supports;

2.6 (5) track the number of students at the undergraduate and graduate levels who are  
2.7 graduating from programs in Minnesota that could facilitate a career as a mental health or  
2.8 substance use disorder treatment practitioner or professional and work with Minnesota  
2.9 colleges and universities to support the students in obtaining licensure;

2.10 (6) identify barriers to mental health professional licensure and make recommendations  
2.11 to address the barriers;

2.12 (7) establish learning collaborative partnerships with mental health and substance use  
2.13 disorder treatment providers, schools, criminal justice agencies, and others;

2.14 (8) promote and expand loan forgiveness programs, funds for professionals to become  
2.15 supervisors, funding to pay for supervision, and funding for pathways to licensure;

2.16 (9) identify barriers to using loan forgiveness programs and develop recommendations  
2.17 to address the barriers;

2.18 (10) work to expand Medicaid graduate medical education to other mental health  
2.19 professionals;

2.20 (11) identify current sites for internships and practicums and assess the need for additional  
2.21 sites;

2.22 (12) develop training to increase the knowledge about mental health and substance use  
2.23 disorders for other health care professionals, including but not limited to community health  
2.24 workers, pediatricians, primary care physicians, physician assistants, and nurses; and

2.25 (13) support training for integrated mental health and primary care in rural areas.

2.26 Subd. 3. **Reports.** Beginning January 1, 2025, the commissioner of health shall submit  
2.27 an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees  
2.28 with jurisdiction over health summarizing the center's activities and progress in addressing  
2.29 the mental health and substance use disorder treatment workforce shortage.

3.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245.4663, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

3.2 Subd. 2. **Eligible providers.** In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a mental  
3.3 health provider must:

3.4 (1) provide at least 25 percent of the provider's yearly patient encounters to state public  
3.5 program enrollees or patients receiving sliding fee schedule discounts through a formal  
3.6 sliding fee schedule meeting the standards established by the United States Department of  
3.7 Health and Human Services under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 51c.303;  
3.8 ~~or~~

3.9 (2) primarily serve underrepresented communities as defined in section 148E.010,  
3.10 subdivision 20; or

3.11 (3) provide services to people in a city or township that is not within the seven-county  
3.12 metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2, and is not the city of Duluth,  
3.13 Mankato, Moorhead, Rochester, or St. Cloud.

3.14 Sec. 3. **[245.4908] YOUTH CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM.**

3.15 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The youth care professional training program is  
3.16 established in the Department of Human Services to provide training and ongoing support  
3.17 for direct care staff in children's mental health treatment settings described in section  
3.18 256B.0941 and Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960, and day treatment services described in  
3.19 section 256B.0943.

3.20 Subd. 2. **Program activities.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall contract  
3.21 with a provider to establish curricula, administration, and implementation.

3.22 (b) Training courses must be based in trauma-informed care and cover:

3.23 (1) Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960;

3.24 (2) maltreatment of minors;

3.25 (3) resident rights;

3.26 (4) emergency procedures;

3.27 (5) policy and procedures for physical holds and de-escalation techniques;

3.28 (6) physical and nonphysical intervention;

3.29 (7) positive behavior supports;

3.30 (8) fundamentals of child and adolescent development;

4.1 (9) mental illness and symptoms of mental illness; and

4.2 (10) cultural responsiveness and family engagement.

4.3 (c) At the completion of the training requirements, a participant and the completion date  
4.4 must be listed in the youth worker professional registry held and maintained by the  
4.5 commissioner of human services.

4.6 (d) Expert stakeholders from children's mental health treatment must be involved in  
4.7 curriculum development.

4.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245I.04, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

4.9 Subd. 6. **Clinical trainee qualifications.** (a) A clinical trainee is a staff person who: (1)  
4.10 is enrolled in an accredited graduate program of study to prepare the staff person for  
4.11 independent licensure as a mental health professional and who is participating in a practicum  
4.12 or internship with the license holder through the individual's graduate program; ~~or~~ (2) has  
4.13 completed an accredited graduate program of study to prepare the staff person for independent  
4.14 licensure as a mental health professional and who is in compliance with the requirements  
4.15 of the applicable health-related licensing board, including requirements for supervised  
4.16 practice; or (3) has completed an accredited graduate program of study to prepare the staff  
4.17 person for independent licensure as a mental health professional and has completed a  
4.18 practicum or internship and has not yet taken or received the results from the required test  
4.19 or is waiting for the final licensure decision.

4.20 (b) A clinical trainee is responsible for notifying and applying to a health-related licensing  
4.21 board to ensure that the trainee meets the requirements of the health-related licensing board.  
4.22 As permitted by a health-related licensing board, treatment supervision under this chapter  
4.23 may be integrated into a plan to meet the supervisory requirements of the health-related  
4.24 licensing board but does not supersede those requirements.