

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 117 (HB 320)

2019 Regular Session

Simon

Existing law prohibits a public school governing authority from denying a student access to behavioral health service providers at school during school hours if requested by the student's parent or legal guardian. Requires such governing authorities to adopt policies that include requirements for providers relative to liability insurance coverage, criminal background checks, compliance with students' specific education, behavior, or health plans, reporting students' progress, submission of behavioral health evaluations by parents, and other specified matters. Defines "behavioral health provider" and "behavioral health services" and other terms for purposes of existing law.

New law adds "applied behavior analysis provider" to the definition of "behavioral health provider" in order to allow access to such providers for students in school. Further adds "medically necessary applied behavior analysis services" to definition of "behavioral health services".

In addition, new law:

- (1) Requires public school governing authorities to make their policies available to the public.
- (2) Provides that behavioral health evaluations include recommendations for applied behavior analysis services.

Effective August 1, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 17:173(A)(2)(intro. para.), (B), and (C))