SLS 21RS-154 **ORIGINAL**

2021 Regular Session

1

SENATE BILL NO. 127

BY SENATOR MCMATH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides relative to specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program. (8/1/21)

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2162(D)(2), relative to behavioral health rehabilitation
3	services in the Louisiana medical assistance program; to require a minimum level of
4	education and training for certain providers; to make technical changes; and to
5	provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 40:2162(D)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
8	§2162. Specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical
9	assistance program
10	* * *
11	D. In order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral
12	health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR or CPST
13	services for the licensed and accredited provider agency meets all of the following
14	requirements:
15	* * *
16	(2)(a) On and after July 1, 2018, any Any individual rendering PSR services
17	for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall hold a minimum of a one of the

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1	<u>10110WING:</u>
2	(i) A bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college in the field
3	of counseling, social work, psychology, or sociology.
4	(ii) Any bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college with
5	a minimum of fifteen hours of coursework or practicum experience from an
6	accredited university or college in counseling, social work, sociology, or
7	psychology as part of or in addition to the bachelor's degree.
8	(iii) Any master's degree from an accredited university or college with
9	a minimum of fifteen hours of graduate level coursework or practicum
10	experience from an accredited university or college in counseling, social work,
11	sociology, or psychology as part of or in addition to the master's degree.
12	(b) Any individual rendering PSR services who does not possess the
13	minimum bachelor's degree required educational requirements provided for in this
14	Paragraph, but who met all provider qualifications in effect prior to July 1, 2018,
15	may continue to provide PSR services for the same provider agency. Prior to the
16	individual rendering PSR services at a different provider agency, he must shall
17	comply with the provisions of this Section.
18	(b) On and after July 1, 2018, any (c) Any individual rendering any CPST
19	services for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall hold a minimum of a
20	bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college in the field of counseling,
21	social work, psychology, or sociology.
22	* * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

DIGEST

SB 127 Original

fallarring.

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McMath

Present law defines "psychosocial rehabilitation services" (PSR services) as psycho-educational services provided to individuals with mental illness in order to assist with skill-building, restoration, and rehabilitation, designed to assist the individual with compensating for or eliminating functional deficits and interpersonal or environmental barriers associated with mental illness.

Proposed law retains present law.

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

<u>Present law</u> provides that, in order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR services for the provider agency meets certain enumerated requirements including a minimum of a bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college in the field of counseling, social work, psychology, or sociology.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and expands the minimum eligible educational requirement to include both of the following:

- (1) Any bachelor's degree with a minimum of 15 hours of coursework or practicum experience from an accredited university or college in counseling, social work, sociology, or psychology as part of or in addition to the bachelor's degree.
- (2) Any master's degree with a minimum of 15 hours of graduate level coursework or practicum experience from an accredited university or college in counseling, social work, sociology, or psychology as part of or in addition to the master's degree.

<u>Present law</u> provides that any individual rendering PSR services who does not possess the minimum bachelor's degree required by <u>present law</u>, but who met all provider qualifications in effect prior to July 1, 2018, may continue to provide PSR services for the same provider agency. Further provides that, prior to the individual rendering PSR services at a different provider agency, the individual must comply with the provisions of <u>present law</u>.

Proposed law retains present law but makes technical changes.

Effective August 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 40:2162(D)(2))