

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 222

2026 Regular Session

Pressly

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides for Medicaid behavioral health services. (gov sign)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add seizure assessment training to the list of trainings that may be excepted in certain circumstances.
3. Add definitions for "cardiopulmonary resuscitation", "community psychiatric support and treatment services", and "psychosocial rehabilitation services"

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

DIGEST

SB 222 Engrossed

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Proposed law prohibits the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) and any managed care entity administering Medicaid behavioral health services from requiring pre-employment reference letters as a condition of provider enrollment, staff credentialing, or the delivery of services.

Proposed law prohibits LDH and any managed care entity administering Medicaid behavioral health services from requiring CPR, first aid certification, or seizure assessment training for behavioral health staff as a condition of provider enrollment, staff credentialing, or reimbursement, except in settings where the training is required by federal law, state law, or licensing requirements for certain facilities.

Proposed law provides that supervision required for behavioral health staff who are provisionally licensed or otherwise under supervision pursuant to the requirements of a La. licensing board shall satisfy LDH's program supervision requirements when such supervision meets or exceeds applicable program standards.

Proposed law requires LDH to revise Medicaid behavioral health provider documentation requirements to align with federal guidance stating that documentation shall be completed during the service or as soon as practicable after the service is provided pursuant to timelines and reasonable exceptions established by LDH.

Proposed law requires that when documentation is completed outside the general standard, the provider must include a late-entry attestation stating the date of entry and the reason for the delay.

Proposed law provides that when a Medicaid behavioral health provider is required by rule to maintain a nurse on staff or to maintain a written agreement for nursing services solely for the purpose of medication administration, the requirement is satisfied by the presence of a licensed physician, psychiatrist, or physician assistant acting within the lawful scope of practice.

Proposed law provides that physician assistants may serve as medical director for a Medicaid behavioral health provider in addition to physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, and medical psychologists as currently authorized by LDH's Medicaid services manual.

Proposed law requires LDH to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), no later than July 1, 2026, any necessary state plan amendment, waiver, or other request to authorize reimbursement for psychosocial rehabilitation services delivered via telehealth and to notify the committees on health and welfare of the submission and response from CMS.

Proposed law to provide for definitions.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 28:301-308)

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