

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22035

The intent of this legislation is to make changes to the Behavioral Health System of Care (BHSC) in Idaho. This legislation is the culmination of over a decade of committees that have reviewed Idaho's BHSC and made recommendations. There are a few major themes to recommendations that have been made by the groups during the past decade. First is the integration of the substance use disorder and mental health systems. Second is to allow local communities to have more influence over the BHSC. Third is to clearly articulate the roles of system partners, public agencies, and Branches of Government. Fourth is to create a BHSC that is recovery oriented and consumer driven. In addition to these hallmarks of a transformed system, this legislation also prepares for the overall changes that are coming to behavioral health and health care in general. The BHSC in Idaho and National is moving toward a payer driven system. Insurance companies, including Medicaid, will largely be responsible for clinical treatment services, but not the support services. These services, while typically less expensive, are equally if not more critical to stabilizing individuals with behavioral health disorders.

This legislation will integrate the Regional Advisory Committees (advisory to the substance abuse system) and the Regional Mental Health Boards (advisory to the mental health system) into a single entity. called the Regional Behavioral Health Board (RBHB), which will be responsible for the support services missing under a payer driven system described above. It will expand the State Planning Council on Mental Health to be the State Planning Council on Behavioral Health. This legislation will better describe the role of the State Behavioral Health Authority, DHW's Behavioral Health Division.

FISCAL NOTE

The newly created RBHBs will need funding to assist with startup and ongoing operations. The Department has within its FY2013 budget, \$350,000 (\$50,000 per region) to assist the new created RBHBs with startup costs. These funds are within the Children's Mental Health trustee and benefit appropriation. For ongoing operating funds, the Department has within its personnel and operating budgets in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Divisions' \$420,000 (\$60,000 per region) to assist the RBHBs with base funding for operations The Department currently receives and administers federal funding for supportive services to individuals with behavioral health disorders that it intends on contracting with the RBHBs to effectively and appropriately administer at the local level. In addition to the funding identified above, the Department will also provide in-kind support to the RBHBs in the form of office space, computer and phone. Finally, the RBHBs will, with this legislation, have the opportunity to seek additional funds from other sources such as grants, contracts with other state and private agencies, and charities to assist them in their efforts to develop and arrange support services for their community members that have behavioral health disorders.

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