

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 519

5 By: Senator K. Hammer
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING FUNDING FOR
9 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS; AND FOR OTHER
10 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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14 TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING FUNDING FOR
15 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 20-46-302 and 20-46-303 are amended to
21 read as follows:

22 20-46-302. Department of Human Services – Power to regulate – Funding.

23 (a) The Arkansas State Hospital shall have the power to establish
24 guidelines, rules, and regulations in the administration of this section.

25 (b)(1) The Arkansas State Hospital through the Department of Human
26 Services is authorized and empowered to assist community mental health
27 centers and clinics in providing funds for medication required for the
28 treatment of mental illness for medically indigent patients at a rate not to
29 exceed five cents (5¢) per capita of the geographical area served by those
30 community mental health centers or clinics.

31 (2) The most recent federal census will be used in determining
32 the per capita of the area on which an allocation is made.

33 ~~(c)(1) Disbursement of funds authorized by this section shall be~~
34 ~~limited to the appropriations for the department and funds made available by~~
35 ~~law for the support of the appropriations.~~

36 ~~(2) The restrictions of the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-~~



~~201 et seq.; the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101 et seq.; the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.; and other fiscal control laws of the state, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of the funds.~~

(c)(1) A community mental health center shall be funded by a combination of funds from the mental health block grants, social services block grants, and state general revenue.

(2) For fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2021, funding for community mental health centers shall not be less than the amount appropriated for community mental health centers on July 1, 2018.

(3) The Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services shall meet with community mental health centers annually to determine appropriate increases in funding for each fiscal year.

(4)(A) A community mental health center shall report quarterly on the adequacy of funding for fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2021 to:

(i) The Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor; and

(ii) The House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

(B) The report shall include an annual audit of the community mental health center that is performed by an independent certified public accountant and meets generally accepted accounting principles.

20-46-303. Standards generally.

In approving or rejecting community mental health clinics for the purpose of mental health services, the Director of the Department of Human Services shall consider the following factors:

(1) Adequacy of mental health services provided by the clinic, including mental health outpatient diagnostic and treatment services;

(2) Rehabilitative services for patients suffering from mental or emotional disorders;

(3) Collaborative and cooperative services with public health and other state, county, city, and private groups for programs of prevention and treatment of mental illness and other psychiatric, psychological, and

1 social disabilities;

2 (4) Consultative services to schools, to courts, and to health
3 and welfare agencies, both public and private;

4 (5) Informational and educational services to the general public
5 and to lay and professional groups; ~~and~~

6 (6) Study and training activities in the field of mental health;

7 (7) Demonstrated experience providing outpatient behavioral
8 health services in the State of Arkansas, specifically those behavioral
9 health services providing emergency screenings twenty-four (24) hours per
10 day, seven (7) days per week; and

11 (8) The full array of outpatient services for the community
12 provided, including psychiatry services.

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