SHORT TITLE: Requesting a joint interim study to evaluate current educational, programmatic and clinical requirements of master's degree programs in psychology for certain purpose; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. ____ By: Stipe of the Senate

and

Boyd (Laura) of the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution requesting a joint interim study to evaluate current educational, programmatic and clinical requirements of master's degree programs in psychology for certain purpose; providing for technical support; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Community Mental Health Centers in this state provided service to over 46,000 clients in the last fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, such service delivery represents a client growth of 35% over the last six years; and

WHEREAS, Community and Mental Health Centers often provide services to underserved areas and underserved populations; and

WHEREAS, of the mental health professionals providing such service delivery, more than 2,400 hold master's degrees; and

WHEREAS, there are nine state institutions of higher education which offer a master's degree in either psychology, biological psychology, applied behavior, behavioral science, psychological services, or counseling psychology; and

WHEREAS, from 1992 through 1995, a total of 544 master's degrees in these areas were conferred by these state institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, variations exist between these degree programs, with respect to educational, programmatic, and clinical requirements,

that may impact the ability of degree holders to obtain appropriate licensure or certification in a mental health related field; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services is preparing to pilot a behavioral health managed care program in the northeast quadrant of the state; and

WHEREAS, the future impact of managed care upon the relative employability of nonlicensed mental health service providers is unclear.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT a joint interim study committee be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THAT the joint interim study committee evaluate the current educational, programmatic and clinical requirements of master's degree programs in psychology offered in this state, as they relate to the availability of licensure or certification required to provide community mental health related services in a managed care environment.

THAT the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, the State Department of Health, and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services assist and provide technical support to the joint interim study committee.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

46-1-1250 JY