

and

Wilkerson of the Senate

An Act relating to public health; stating requirements for credentialing of behavioral health providers for Medicaid reimbursement; providing for provisional credentialing; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5030.2 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Oklahoma Health Care Authority requirements for the credentialing of behavioral health providers for Medicaid reimbursement shall provide for:

1. Continued credentialing for behavioral health professionals who are:
 - a. actively providing behavioral health services for an outpatient mental health agency having a contract with the Authority on January 1, 1999, and
 - b. approved by the quality improvement division of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services on or before July 1, 1999, and
 - c. privileged as a qualified mental health professional in accordance with Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services criteria as of January 1, 1999; and

2. Provisional credentialing for persons having a Baccalaureate or Master's degree in a behavioral health or related

field and who are actively providing behavioral health services for an outpatient mental health agency having a contract with the Authority on January 1, 1999.

B. Persons holding provisional credentialing shall be subject to supervision by a behavioral health practitioner holding an active and unrestricted license in a behavioral health field issued in this state. The licensed behavioral health practitioner shall supervise not more than twenty persons holding provisional credentialing.

1. Subject to the required supervision, a person holding provisional credentialing may perform therapeutic behavioral health services, including but not limited to individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, treatment plan development, and mental rehabilitation therapies.

2. Provisional credentialing for persons having a Baccalaureate degree shall be valid for four (4) years after the effective date of this act.

3. Provisional credentialing for persons having a Master's degree shall not be subject to required time limits within which the person must obtain state licensure in a behavioral health field.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 1999.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1999.

President of the Senate