

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 SENATE BILL 1422

By: Paddack

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to mental health; directing the  
8 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
9 Services to develop and implement a mental health  
10 first aid pilot program; stating purpose of program;  
11 setting curriculum requirements; providing for a  
12 certificate in mental health first aid; authorizing  
the Department to enter into certain contract;  
13 requiring certain report; directing the Board of  
14 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to  
15 promulgate rules; providing for codification; and  
16 providing an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 13-101 of Title 43A, unless  
20 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
22 shall develop and implement a mental health first aid pilot program.  
23 The purpose of the mental health first aid pilot program shall be to  
24 train non-mental health professionals in how to support an  
individual in a mental health crisis situation until professional  
help can be obtained.

1 B. The Department shall adopt a curriculum which, at a minimum,  
2 shall include training for individuals on the symptoms, causes and  
3 evidence-based treatments for common mental health problems,  
4 including, but not limited to, depression, anxiety disorders,  
5 psychosis, and substance abuse disorders. The curriculum shall also  
6 address possible crisis situations arising from these mental health  
7 problems and steps to support an individual in a crisis situation.

8 C. The Department shall issue a certificate in mental health  
9 first aid to individuals who complete the course of training. The  
10 Department shall establish criteria for certification.

11 D. The Department is authorized to enter into a contract to  
12 implement the provisions of this section.

13 E. On or before December 31, 2009 and annually thereafter, the  
14 Department shall submit a report to the Legislature stating the  
15 number of participants in the program, the number of individuals who  
16 received a certificate in the program and any recommendations for  
17 improvement of the program.

18 F. The Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
19 shall promulgate rules as necessary to implement the provisions of  
20 this section.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2008.

22

23 51-2-2356 JM 1/22/2008 9:51:00 PM

24