

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 773

By: Stanley of the Senate

3 and

4 Wright of the House  
5

6 An Act relating to mental health and substance abuse  
7 services; creating the Oklahoma Mental Health Loan  
8 Repayment Act; providing short title; directing  
9 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
10 Services to administer program; providing certain  
11 assistance to certain providers; requiring certain  
12 distribution and certification; allowing certain  
13 extension; requiring providers to provide services to  
14 certain populations; requiring execution of certain  
15 contract; requiring certain report; providing  
16 criteria for determination of award; establishing  
17 certain revolving fund; providing for codification;  
18 and providing an effective date.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2730 of Title 63, unless there  
22 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Mental  
24 Health Loan Repayment Act."

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2731 of Title 63, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1       A. 1. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
2 Services shall administer the Oklahoma Mental Health Loan Repayment  
3 Program.

4       2. The Program, depending upon available funding, shall provide  
5 educational loan repayment assistance for mental health or substance  
6 abuse treatment providers who provide services in Health  
7 Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) for mental health.

8       3. Each award shall be for a contracted period and shall be  
9 distributed to the participant by drafts made payable to the  
10 participant and the appropriate loan agency following a completed  
11 year of service. Prior to any disbursement, the Department shall  
12 certify and properly review reports submitted by the participating  
13 provider detailing performance of activities in accordance with this  
14 act.

15       4. At the conclusion of the minimum service obligation, the  
16 Department shall review the performance in the Program of the  
17 participating mental health or substance abuse provider and  
18 determine whether an award may be granted for an additional period  
19 not to exceed a total participation in the Program of five (5) years  
20 pursuant to rules promulgated by the Board of Mental Health and  
21 Substance Abuse Services.

22       B. Any participating mental health or substance abuse treatment  
23 provider shall agree to provide mental health or substance abuse  
24 treatment services to Medicaid recipients as authorized by the

1 Oklahoma Health Care Authority and individuals lacking health  
2 insurance coverage. The Department of Mental Health and Substance  
3 Abuse Services shall be responsible for ensuring that at least  
4 twenty-five percent (25%) of the patients treated by the provider  
5 are Medicaid beneficiaries, uninsured, or a combination of Medicaid  
6 and uninsured recipients.

7 C. The mental health or substance abuse treatment provider  
8 shall execute a contract with the Department to provide mental  
9 health or substance abuse treatment services pursuant to the terms  
10 of the contract and in accordance with rules promulgated by the  
11 Board.

12 D. The Department shall present a report on the operation of  
13 the Program to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
14 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives within one (1) month  
15 of the beginning of each regular session of the Legislature,  
16 including but not limited to the progress made in accomplishing the  
17 goal of the Program.

18 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2732 of Title 63, unless there  
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 The amount of the award of educational loan repayment assistance  
22 shall be established at the discretion of the Department of Mental  
23 Health and Substance Abuse Services and based upon a determination  
24 of:

1        1. Actual funds available to the Oklahoma Mental Health Loan  
2        Repayment Program for expenditure; and

3        2. The existing student loan indebtedness of the participating  
4        mental health or substance abuse treatment provider.

5        SECTION 4.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
6        in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2733 of Title 63, unless there  
7        is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

8        There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
9        for the State Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to be  
10       designated the "Mental Health Loan Repayment Revolving Fund". The  
11       fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year  
12       limitations, and shall consist of all monies deposited to the credit  
13       of the fund by law. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund  
14       are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the  
15       State Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for  
16       the purpose of repaying mental health and substance treatment  
17       provider student loans. Expenditures from the fund shall be made  
18       upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as  
19       prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and  
20       Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

21       SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.  
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1 Passed the Senate the 5th day of March, 2019.

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3 \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
6 2019.

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8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Presiding Officer of the House  
10 of Representatives