

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                               STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                               1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

4   ENGROSSED SENATE  
5   BILL NO. 773

By: Stanley of the Senate

and

Wright of the House

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

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

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

26       This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Mental  
27      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:

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

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

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

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

1       B. Any participating mental health or substance abuse treatment  
2 provider shall agree to provide mental health or substance abuse  
3 treatment services to Medicaid recipients as authorized by the  
4 Oklahoma Health Care Authority and individuals lacking health  
5 insurance coverage. The Department of Mental Health and Substance  
6 Abuse Services shall be responsible for ensuring that at least  
7 twenty-five percent (25%) of the patients treated by the provider  
8 are Medicaid beneficiaries, uninsured, or a combination of Medicaid  
9 and uninsured recipients.

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

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

21       SECTION 3.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2732 of Title 63, unless there  
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:  
24

1       The amount of the award of educational loan repayment assistance  
2 shall be established at the discretion of the Department of Mental  
3 Health and Substance Abuse Services and based upon a determination  
4 of:

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

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

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

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

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated  
04/04/2019 - DO PASS.