

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 SENATE BILL NO. 773

By: Stanley

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

24 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Mental
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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