

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by  
5 changing Section 5-5.25 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.25)

7 Sec. 5-5.25. Access to behavioral ~~psychiatric mental~~  
8 health and medical services.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that providing access to  
10 behavioral ~~psychiatric mental~~ health and medical services in a  
11 timely manner will improve the quality of life for persons  
12 suffering from ~~mental~~ illness and will contain health care  
13 costs by avoiding the need for more costly inpatient  
14 hospitalization.

15 (b) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall  
16 reimburse psychiatrists, ~~and~~ federally qualified health  
17 centers as defined in Section 1905(1)(2)(B) of the federal  
18 Social Security Act, clinical psychologists, clinical social  
19 workers, advanced practice registered nurses certified in  
20 psychiatric and mental health nursing, and mental health  
21 professionals and clinicians authorized by Illinois law to  
22 provide behavioral ~~for mental~~ health services ~~provided by~~  
23 ~~psychiatrists, as authorized by Illinois law,~~ to recipients via

1 ~~telehealth telepsychiatry~~. The Department, by rule, shall  
2 establish: (i) criteria for such services to be reimbursed,  
3 including appropriate facilities and equipment to be used at  
4 both sites and requirements for a physician or other licensed  
5 health care professional to be present at the site where the  
6 patient is located; however, the Department shall not require  
7 that a physician or other licensed health care professional be  
8 physically present in the same room as the patient for the  
9 entire time during which the patient is receiving telehealth  
10 ~~telepsychiatry~~ services; and (ii) a method to reimburse  
11 providers for mental health services provided by telehealth  
12 ~~telepsychiatry~~.

13 (c) The Department shall reimburse any Medicaid certified  
14 eligible facility or provider organization that acts as the  
15 location of the patient at the time a telehealth service is  
16 rendered, including substance abuse centers licensed by the  
17 Department of Human Services' Division of Alcoholism and  
18 Substance Abuse.

19 (d) On and after July 1, 2012, the Department shall reduce  
20 any rate of reimbursement for services or other payments or  
21 alter any methodologies authorized by this Code to reduce any  
22 rate of reimbursement for services or other payments in  
23 accordance with Section 5-5e.

24 (Source: P.A. 100-385, eff. 1-1-18.)