

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 health, ~~and~~ medical, and
8 epilepsy treatment services.

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

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

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

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

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

1 (Source: P.A. 100-385, eff. 1-1-18; 100-790, eff. 8-10-18;
2 100-1019, eff. 1-1-19; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19.)

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
4 becoming law.