

1 AN ACT in relation to mental health.

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

4 Section 5. The Mental Health and Developmental
5 Disabilities Code is amended by adding Chapter IV-E as
6 follows:

7 (405 ILCS 5/Ch. IV-E heading new)

8 CHAPTER IV-E. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

9 (405 ILCS 5/4E-5 new)

10 Sec. 4E-5. Legislative findings; intent.

11 (a) The Legislature finds and declares that there is no
12 comprehensive interagency system throughout Illinois for the
13 delivery of mental health services to seriously emotionally
14 and behaviorally disturbed children. Specific problems to be
15 addressed include the following:

16 (1) The population of children that should receive
17 services has not been defined.

18 (2) Clear and objective client outcome goals for
19 children receiving services have not been specified.

20 (3) Although seriously emotionally and behaviorally
21 disturbed children usually have multiple disabilities,
22 the many different State and local agencies, particularly
23 education, social services, juvenile justice, health, and
24 mental health agencies, who share responsibility for
25 these individuals do not always collaborate to develop
26 and deliver integrated and cost-effective programs.

27 (4) A range of community-based treatment, case
28 management, and interagency system components required by
29 children with serious emotional disturbances has not been
30 identified and implemented.

1 (5) Service delivery standards that ensure
2 culturally competent care in the most appropriate, least
3 restrictive environment have not been specified and
4 required.

5 (6) The mental health system lacks accountability
6 and methods to measure progress towards client outcome
7 goals and cost-effectiveness. There are also no
8 requirements for other State and local agencies to
9 collect or share relevant data necessary for the mental
10 health system to conduct this evaluation.

11 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to plan a system
12 of care for children with serious emotional and behavioral
13 problems within the State.

14 (405 ILCS 5/4E-10 new)

15 Sec. 4E-10. Task Force.

16 (a) There is created a Task Force consisting of 25
17 members appointed by the Secretary of Human Services. Of
18 these 25 members, one member shall be a representative of the
19 Department of Human Services, one member shall be a
20 representative of the Department of Children and Family
21 Services, one member shall be a representative of the
22 Department of Public Aid, one member shall be a
23 representative of the Department of Corrections, and one
24 member shall be a representative of the Criminal Justice
25 Information Authority. The remaining 20 members shall
26 represent physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, mental
27 health professionals, and advocacy organizations who work
28 with emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children. The
29 President and Minority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker
30 and Minority Leader of the House shall each appoint a member
31 of the General Assembly to work with the Task Force in an
32 advisory capacity.

33 (b) The Secretary of Human Services shall designate one

1 of the members appointed by him or her to serve as the chair
2 of the Task Force.

3 (c) The Task Force members shall serve without
4 compensation.

5 (d) The Task Force shall assess the legislative findings
6 as described in Section 4E-5 of this Code and shall develop a
7 plan to provide for the delivery of mental health services to
8 seriously emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children
9 that shall include, but not be limited to, all of the
10 following elements:

11 (1) A comprehensive, interagency system of care
12 that serves the target population as defined by the
13 Department.

14 (2) A method to screen and identify children in the
15 target population.

16 (3) A defined mental health case management system
17 for children in the target population.

18 (4) A defined range of mental health services and
19 program standards that involve interagency collaboration
20 and ensure appropriate service delivery in the least
21 restrictive environment with community-based alternatives
22 to out-of-home placement.

23 (5) A defined mechanism to ensure that services are
24 culturally competent.

25 (6) A defined mechanism to ensure that services are
26 child-centered and family-focused, with parent
27 participation in planning and delivery of services.

28 (7) A method to show measurable improvement in
29 individual and family functional status for children
30 enrolled in the system of care.

31 (8) A defined partnership between the children's
32 system of care program and family members of children who
33 have been or are currently being served in the mental
34 health system.

1 (e) The Task Force shall report its recommendations for
2 legislation to implement its plan to the General Assembly on
3 or before January 1, 2003.

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