

STATE OF MICHIGAN
89TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1998

Introduced by Senator Cisky

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 1225

AN ACT to amend 1974 PA 258, entitled "An act to codify, revise, consolidate, and classify the laws relating to mental health; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials and certain private agencies and individuals; to regulate certain agencies and facilities providing mental health services; to provide for certain charges and fees; to establish civil admission procedures for individuals with mental illness or developmental disability; to establish guardianship procedures for individuals with developmental disability; to establish procedures regarding individuals with mental illness or developmental disability who are in the criminal justice system; to provide for penalties and remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 100a, 161, and 748 (MCL 330.1100a, 330.1161, and 330.1748), section 100a as added and section 161 as amended by 1995 PA 290 and section 748 as amended by 1996 PA 588, and to add section 748a.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 100a. (1) "Abilities" means the qualities, skills, and competencies of an individual that reflect the individual's talents and acquired proficiencies.

(2) "Abuse" means nonaccidental physical or emotional harm to a recipient, or sexual contact with or sexual penetration of a recipient as those terms are defined in section 520a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.520a, that is committed by an employee or volunteer of the department, a community mental health services program, or a licensed hospital or by an employee or volunteer of a service provider under contract with the department, community mental health services program, or licensed hospital.

(3) "Adaptive skills" means skills in 1 or more of the following areas:

- (a) Communication.
- (b) Self-care.
- (c) Home living.
- (d) Social skills.
- (e) Community use.
- (f) Self-direction.
- (g) Health and safety.
- (h) Functional academics.
- (i) Leisure.
- (j) Work.

(4) "Adult foster care facility" means an adult foster care facility licensed under the adult foster care facility licensing act, 1979 PA 218, MCL 400.701 to 400.737.

(5) "Applicant" means an individual or his or her legal representative who makes a request for mental health services.

(6) "Board" means the governing body of a community mental health services program.

(7) "Board of commissioners" means a county board of commissioners.

(8) "Center" means a facility operated by the department to admit individuals with developmental disabilities and provide habilitation and treatment services.

(9) "Certification" means formal approval of a program by the department in accordance with standards developed or approved by the department.

(10) "Child abuse" and "child neglect" mean those terms as defined in section 2 of the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.622.

(11) "Child and adolescent psychiatrist" means 1 or more of the following:

(a) A physician who has completed a residency program in child and adolescent psychiatry approved by the accreditation council for graduate medical education or the American osteopathic association, or who has completed 12 months of child and adolescent psychiatric rotation and is enrolled in an approved residency program as described in this subsection.

(b) A psychiatrist employed by or under contract as a child and adolescent psychiatrist with the department or a community mental health services program on March 28, 1996, who has education and clinical experience in the evaluation and treatment of children or adolescents with serious emotional disturbance.

(c) A psychiatrist who has education and clinical experience in the evaluation and treatment of children or adolescents with serious emotional disturbance who is approved by the director.

(12) "Children's diagnostic and treatment service" means a program operated by or under contract with a community mental health services program, that provides examination, evaluation, and referrals for minors, including emergency referrals, that provides or facilitates treatment for minors, and that has been certified by the department.

(13) "Community mental health authority" means a separate legal public governmental entity created under section 205 to operate as a community mental health services program.

(14) "Community mental health organization" means a community mental health services program that is organized under the urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512.

(15) "Community mental health services program" means a program operated under chapter 2 as a county community mental health agency, a community mental health authority, or a community mental health organization.

(16) "Consent" means a written agreement executed by a recipient, a minor recipient's parent, or a recipient's legal representative with authority to execute a consent, or a verbal agreement of a recipient that is witnessed and documented by an individual other than the individual providing treatment.

(17) "County community mental health agency" means an official county or multicounty agency created under section 210 that operates as a community mental health services program and that has not elected to become a community mental health authority under section 205 or a community mental health organization under the urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512.

(18) "Dependent living setting" means all of the following:

(a) An adult foster care facility.

(b) A nursing home licensed under article 17 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20101 to 333.22260.

(c) A home for the aged licensed under article 17 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20101 to 333.22260.

(19) "Department" means the department of community health.

(20) "Developmental disability" means either of the following:

(a) If applied to an individual older than 5 years, a severe, chronic condition that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments.

(ii) Is manifested before the individual is 22 years old.

(iii) Is likely to continue indefinitely.

(iv) Results in substantial functional limitations in 3 or more of the following areas of major life activity:

(A) Self-care.

(B) Receptive and expressive language.

(C) Learning.

(D) Mobility.

(E) Self-direction.

(F) Capacity for independent living.

(G) Economic self-sufficiency.

(v) Reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

(b) If applied to a minor from birth to age 5, a substantial developmental delay or a specific congenital or acquired condition with a high probability of resulting in developmental disability as defined in subdivision (a) if services are not provided.

(21) "Director" means the director of the department or his or her designee.

(22) "Discharge" means an absolute, unconditional release of an individual from a facility by action of the facility or a court.

(23) "Eligible minor" means an individual less than 18 years of age who is recommended in the written report of a multidisciplinary team under rules promulgated by the department of education to be classified as 1 of the following:

(a) Severely mentally impaired.

(b) Severely multiply impaired.

(c) Autistic impaired and receiving special education services in a program designed for the autistic impaired under subsection (1) of R 340.1758 of the Michigan administrative code or in a program designed for the severely mentally impaired or severely multiply impaired.

(24) "Emergency situation" means a situation in which an individual is experiencing a serious mental illness or a developmental disability, or a child is experiencing a serious emotional disturbance, and 1 of the following applies:

(a) The individual can reasonably be expected within the near future to physically injure himself, herself, or another individual, either intentionally or unintentionally.

(b) The individual is unable to provide himself or herself food, clothing, or shelter or to attend to basic physical activities such as eating, toileting, bathing, grooming, dressing, or ambulating, and this inability may lead in the near future to harm to the individual or to another individual.

(c) The individual's judgment is so impaired that he or she is unable to understand the need for treatment and, in the opinion of the mental health professional, his or her continued behavior as a result of the mental illness, developmental disability, or emotional disturbance can reasonably be expected in the near future to result in physical harm to the individual or to another individual.

(25) "Executive director" means an individual appointed under section 226 to direct a community mental health services program or his or her designee.

Sec. 161. In conjunction with community mental health services programs, the department shall conduct annually and forward to the governor and the house and senate appropriations committees, and the senate and house committees with legislative oversight of social services and mental health, an evaluation of the family support subsidy program that shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) The impact of the family support subsidy program upon children covered by this act in facilities and residential care programs including, to the extent possible, sample case reviews of families who choose not to participate.

(b) Case reviews of families who voluntarily terminate participation in the family support subsidy program for any reason, particularly when the eligible minor is placed out of the family home, including the involvement of the department and community mental health services programs in offering suitable alternatives.

(c) Sample assessments of families receiving family support subsidy payments including adequacy of subsidy and need for services not available.

(d) The efforts to encourage program participation of eligible families.

(e) The geographic distribution of families receiving subsidy payments and, to the extent possible, eligible minors presumed to be eligible for family support subsidy payments.

(f) Programmatic and legislative recommendations to further assist families in providing care for eligible minors.

(g) Problems that arise in identifying eligible minors through diagnostic evaluations performed under rules promulgated by the department of education.

(h) The number of beds reduced in state facilities and foster care facilities serving severely mentally, multiply, and autistic impaired children when the children return home to their natural families as a result of the subsidy program.

(i) Caseload figures by eligibility category as defined in section 100a(23).

Sec. 748. (1) Information in the record of a recipient, and other information acquired in the course of providing mental health services to a recipient, shall be kept confidential and shall not be open to public inspection. The information may be disclosed outside the department, community mental health services program, licensed facility, or contract provider, whichever is the holder of the record, only in the circumstances and under the conditions set forth in this section or section 748a.

(2) If information made confidential by this section is disclosed, the identity of the individual to whom it pertains shall be protected and shall not be disclosed unless it is germane to the authorized purpose for which disclosure was sought; and, when practicable, no other information shall be disclosed unless it is germane to the authorized purpose for which disclosure was sought.

(3) An individual receiving information made confidential by this section shall disclose the information to others only to the extent consistent with the authorized purpose for which the information was obtained.

(4) For case record entries made subsequent to March 28, 1996, information made confidential by this section shall be disclosed to an adult recipient, upon the recipient's request, if the recipient does not have a guardian and has not been adjudicated legally incompetent. The holder of the record shall comply with the adult recipient's request for disclosure as expeditiously as possible but in no event later than the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the request or, if the recipient is receiving treatment from the holder of the record, before the recipient is released from treatment.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in this section or section 748a, when requested, information made confidential by this section shall be disclosed only under 1 or more of the following circumstances:

(a) Pursuant to an order or a subpoena of a court of record or a subpoena of the legislature, unless the information is privileged by law.

(b) To a prosecuting attorney as necessary for the prosecuting attorney to participate in a proceeding governed by this act.

(c) To an attorney for the recipient, with the consent of the recipient, the recipient's guardian with authority to consent, or the parent with legal and physical custody of a minor recipient.

(d) If necessary in order to comply with another provision of law.

(e) To the department if the information is necessary in order for the department to discharge a responsibility placed upon it by law.

(f) To the office of the auditor general if the information is necessary for that office to discharge its constitutional responsibility.

(g) To a surviving spouse of the recipient or, if there is no surviving spouse, to the individual or individuals most closely related to the deceased recipient within the third degree of consanguinity as defined in civil law, for the purpose of applying for and receiving benefits.

(6) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4), if consent is obtained from the recipient, the recipient's guardian with authority to consent, the parent with legal custody of a minor recipient, or the court-appointed personal representative or executor of the estate of a deceased recipient, information made confidential by this section may be disclosed to all of the following:

(a) A provider of mental health services to the recipient.

(b) The recipient or his or her guardian or the parent of a minor recipient or another individual or agency unless in the written judgment of the holder the disclosure would be detrimental to the recipient or others.

(7) Information may be disclosed in the discretion of the holder of the record under 1 or more of the following circumstances:

(a) As necessary in order for the recipient to apply for or receive benefits.

(b) As necessary for the purpose of outside research, evaluation, accreditation, or statistical compilation. The individual who is the subject of the information shall not be identified in the disclosed information unless the identification is essential in order to achieve the purpose for which the information is sought or if preventing the identification would clearly be impractical, but not if the subject of the information is likely to be harmed by the identification.

(c) To a provider of mental or other health services or a public agency, if there is a compelling need for disclosure based upon a substantial probability of harm to the recipient or other individuals.

(8) If required by federal law, the department or a community mental health services program or licensed facility shall grant a representative of the protection and advocacy system designated by the governor in compliance with section 931 access to the records of all of the following:

(a) A recipient, if the recipient, the recipient's guardian with authority to consent, or a minor recipient's parent with legal and physical custody of the recipient has consented to the access.

(b) A recipient, including a recipient who has died or whose location is unknown, if all of the following apply:

(i) Because of mental or physical condition, the recipient is unable to consent to the access.

(ii) The recipient does not have a guardian or other legal representative, or the recipient's guardian is the state.

(iii) The protection and advocacy system has received a complaint on behalf of the recipient or has probable cause to believe based on monitoring or other evidence that the recipient has been subject to abuse or neglect.

(c) A recipient who has a guardian or other legal representative if all of the following apply:

(i) A complaint has been received by the protection and advocacy system or there is probable cause to believe the health or safety of the recipient is in serious and immediate jeopardy.

(ii) Upon receipt of the name and address of the recipient's legal representative, the protection and advocacy system has contacted the representative and offered assistance in resolving the situation.

(iii) The representative has failed or refused to act on behalf of the recipient.

(9) The records, data, and knowledge collected for or by individuals or committees assigned a peer review function, including the review function under section 143a(1), are confidential, shall be used only for the purposes of peer review,

are not public records, and are not subject to court subpoena. This subsection does not prevent disclosure of individual case records pursuant to this section.

(10) The holder of an individual's record, if authorized to release information for clinical purposes by the individual or the individual's guardian or a parent of a minor, shall release a copy of the entire medical and clinical record to the provider of mental health services.

Sec. 748a. (1) If there is a compelling need for mental health records or information to determine whether child abuse or child neglect has occurred or to take action to protect a minor where there may be a substantial risk of harm, a family independence agency caseworker or administrator directly involved in the child abuse or neglect investigation shall notify a mental health professional that a child abuse or neglect investigation has been initiated involving a person who has received services from the mental health professional and shall request in writing mental health records and information that are pertinent to that investigation. Upon receipt of this notification and request, the mental health professional shall review all mental health records and information in the mental health professional's possession to determine if there are mental health records or information that is pertinent to that investigation. Within 14 days after receipt of a request made under this subsection, the mental health professional shall release those pertinent mental health records and information to the caseworker or administrator directly involved in the child abuse or neglect investigation.

(2) The following privileges do not apply to mental health records or information to which access is given under this section:

(a) The physician-patient privilege created in section 2157 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.2157.

(b) The dentist-patient privilege created in section 16648 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16648.

(c) The licensed professional counselor-client and limited licensed counselor-client privilege created in section 18117 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.18117.

(d) The psychologist-patient privilege created in section 18237 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.18237.

(e) Any other health professional-patient privilege created or recognized by law.

(3) To the extent not protected by the immunity conferred by 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1401 to 691.1415, an individual who in good faith gives access to mental health records or information under this section is immune from civil or administrative liability arising from that conduct, unless the conduct was gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct.

(4) A duty under this act relating to child abuse and neglect does not alter a duty imposed under another statute, including the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638, regarding the reporting or investigation of child abuse or neglect.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect March 1, 1999.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate.

Thomas R. Bell

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.