

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 222** SLS 26RS 535

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 31, 2026 12:24 PM	Author: PRESSLY
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Health/Medicaid	Analyst: Anthony Shamis
Subject: Medicaid behavioral health services	

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EG NO IMPACT See Note
Provides for Medicaid behavioral health services. (gov sig)

Proposed law establishes Medicaid behavioral health administrative requirements to eliminate unnecessary administrative barriers, align behavioral health requirements with federal standards and licensing board supervision requirements, and expand workforce flexibility while maintaining patient safety and quality of care. Proposed law requires the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to revise Medicaid behavioral health provider documentation requirements to align with federal guidance stating that documents shall be completed during the service or as soon as practicable after the service is provided. Proposed law requires LDH to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), no later than 7/01/26, any necessary state plan amendment, waiver, or other request to authorize reimbursement for psychosocial rehabilitation via telehealth. No later than 30 days after submission to CMS, the department shall provide written notice to the House and Senate Committees on Health and Welfare. If CMS requests additional information or denies the submission, the department shall report such request or denial to the committees within 30 days. Proposed law becomes effective upon signature of the governor, or after the lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. LDH indicates that this legislation will not impact Medicaid expenditures, as units of service are prior authorized based on medical necessity. LDH further indicates that this measure will affect only the manner in which services are provided, and not the cost or volume of services.

Proposed law amends requirements and regulations associated with the provision of behavioral health services. Specifically, it revises provisions related to pre-employment reference letters; prohibits requirements for CPR or first aid certification; eliminates duplicative supervision requirements; mandates alignment of documentation timeliness with federal guidance; permits a physician assistant to serve as medical director; and authorizes the use of telehealth for the provision of psychosocial rehabilitation services within the Mental Health Rehabilitation program.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Alan M. Boxberger
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Legislative Fiscal Officer