



BILL & AMENDMENT SUMMARY

Mental Health Professional Shortage Area Program Stipends HF 534

March 23, 2015

Status of Bill: House Floor
Committee: Human Resources (passed 21-0)
Lead Democrats: Rep. Winckler
Floor Manager: Rep. Rob Taylor
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Background

The Mental Health Professional Shortage Area Program was created in 2007 and every year the Legislature has provided funding for the Program. The Program provides stipends to support psychiatrist positions with an emphasis on securing and retaining medical directors at community mental health centers, providers of mental health services to county residents, and hospital psychiatric units that are located in mental health professional shortage areas. **Mental health professional shortage areas** are defined as geographic areas in Iowa that have been designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professionals, as having a shortage of mental health professionals.

For Fiscal Year 2015, \$105,450 was appropriated for this Program through the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH). However, the IDPH anticipates reverting all \$105,450 back to the general fund because no qualified applications were received. For FY 13 and FY14, \$70,300 was reverted back each year of the \$105,450, which was appropriated each year.

Summary

The bill adds another option for receiving stipends under the Program. House File 534 requires the Program to also provide stipends to support psychiatric positions at non-profit agencies that have a licensed psychiatric medical institutions for children (PMIC), which provide outpatient mental health services, if at least 50% of the children receiving outpatient services are covered by Medicaid.

Amendments

H-1145 by Dawson (D). Removes the requirement that the PMIC mental health services are outpatient services. Most PMICs provide only inpatient mental health services.

H-1113 by R. Taylor (R). Any leftover funding cannot be reverted back to the general fund and must be available for funding in the following fiscal year.

H-1114 by R. Taylor (R). After funding has been provided for the areas in current law and the new area created this bill, if any funding is left over, the Program must provide stipends to support the following:

- Psychiatrist positions at community mental health centers and hospital psychiatric units if at least 50% of the clients served in the community mental health centers or in the hospital 13 psychiatric units are covered Medicaid.
- Psychiatric physicians who provide consulting services to community mental health centers and hospital psychiatric units that are located in mental health professional shortage areas.

- Physicians in a psychiatric residency program agreeing to provide services in a mental health professional shortage area for a minimum of five years.

Furlong, Zeke [LEGIS]\G:\Caucus Staff\ZFurlong\2015\Word\Human Resources\bill summ - MH shortage stipends.docx\March 26, 2015\8:39 AM