
Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 1072

Brief Description: Concerning the assessment and treatment for chemical dependency.

Sponsors: Representatives Moeller and Cody.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Prohibits a chemical dependency treatment program from providing an individual with both assessment and treatment services, unless the program is a health facility.

Hearing Date: 1/19/11

Staff: Chris Blake (786-7392).

Background:

Chemical dependency treatment programs (programs) provide for the care, treatment, or rehabilitation of people with alcoholism or drug dependency. These programs may either be public or private entities. All programs that provide chemical dependency services must obtain certification from the Department of Social and Health Services (Department). A program must be certified by the Department for each of the chemical dependency services that it provides. These chemical dependency services may include: detoxification services, residential treatment services, outpatient treatment services, assessment services, and information and assistance services.

The Department's standards for providing chemical dependency assessments require that in cases where a diagnostic interview determines that the individual needs chemical dependency treatment, a chemical dependency professional or supervised trainee must evaluate the assessment using patient placement criteria. Patient placement criteria are based upon criteria for the admission, continued service, and discharge of patients as published by the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

A chemical dependency treatment program is prohibited from providing an individual with both assessment and treatment services unless the program is a health facility. "Health facility" is defined as a hospital, rural health care facility, psychiatric hospital, community mental health center, or ambulatory diagnostic, treatment, or surgical facility.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 01/11/11.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.