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**HOUSE BILL 2584**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Caldier, Frame, Leavitt, and Davis

AN ACT Relating to establishing rates for behavioral health services; and adding a new section to chapter 71.24 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 71.24 RCW to read as follows:

(1) It is the intent of the legislature that behavioral health medicaid rate increases be grounded with the rate-setting process for the provider type or practice setting.

(2) In implementing a rate increase funded by the legislature, the authority must work with the actuaries responsible for establishing medicaid rates for behavioral health services to assure that appropriate adjustments are made to the wraparound with intensive services case rate, as well as any other behavioral health services in which a case rate is used.

(3)(a) The authority shall establish a process for verifying that funds appropriated in the omnibus operating appropriations act for targeted behavioral health provider rate increases are used for the objectives stated in the appropriation. The process must establish transparency and accountability mechanisms to demonstrate that appropriated funds for targeted behavioral health provider rate increases are passed through, in the manner intended, to the behavioral health providers who are the subject of the funds appropriated for targeted behavioral health provider rate increases. The process must include a method for determining if the funds have increased access to the behavioral health services offered by the behavioral health providers who are the subject of the targeted provider rate increases. The process must include the participation of representatives from the managed care organizations, behavioral health administrative services organizations, and providers that are the subject of the targeted behavioral health provider rate increases.

(b) By November 1st of each year, the authority shall report to the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over behavioral health issues and fiscal matters regarding the established process for each appropriation for a targeted behavioral health provider rate increase, whether the funds were passed through in accordance with the appropriation language, and any information about increased access to behavioral health services associated with the appropriation. The reporting requirement for each appropriation for a targeted behavioral health provider rate increase shall continue for two years following the specific appropriation.

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