

HOUSE BILL NO. 427

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE RYAN

Introduced: 2/18/98

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act directing the Department of Health and Social Services to contract
2 with a nonprofit group to perform certain activities relating to the provision of
3 mental health services under the medical assistance program for persons under
4 the age of 22; and providing for an effective date."

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 47.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

7 **Sec. 47.07.052. Department to contract for certain services.** (a) The
8 department shall contract with a qualified entity to administer, under the ultimate
9 responsibility and control of the department, a single-entry service delivery system for
10 the provision of mental health services under this chapter to persons under the age of
11 22. The system must serve all persons under the age of 22 who begin to receive
12 mental health services under this chapter after the contract takes effect. The contract
13 must include

14 (1) requirements for reporting outcome and demographic data on a

1 quarterly basis to the department;

2 (2) a requirement that the contractor have employees in the state to
3 implement the system after the contract takes effect.

4 (b) The system must include

5 (1) a prior authorization process for mental health services;

6 (2) provisions for on-site quality assurance review of mental health
7 providers; and

8 (3) at least three places in the state, spread out geographically, where
9 persons needing mental health services can access the system.

10 (c) The system must include, in the areas of the state where the department
11 determines it is feasible,

12 (1) assessments of the mental health needs of the person being served;

13 (2) referrals to mental health providers;

14 (3) advocacy services on behalf of the person being served; and

15 (4) coordination of the provision of mental health services.

16 (d) In this section,

17 (1) "nonprofit organization" means a nonprofit corporation, association,
18 club, or society organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, scientific,
19 or educational purposes or for the promotion of social welfare and that the Internal
20 Revenue Service has determined to be a tax exempt organization under 26 U.S.C.
21 501(c)(3) (Internal Revenue Code);

22 (2) "qualified entity" means a nonprofit corporation organized under
23 AS 10.20 that is not a direct provider of mental health services or a nonprofit
24 organization that is not a direct provider of mental health services;

25 (3) "system" means the single-entry service delivery system required
26 under (a) of this section.

27 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect 180 days after this bill becomes law.