

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Section 5-5.25 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.25)

7 Sec. 5-5.25. Access to behavioral ~~psychiatric mental~~
8 health and medical services.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that providing access to
10 behavioral ~~psychiatric mental~~ health and medical services in a
11 timely manner will improve the quality of life for persons
12 suffering from ~~mental~~ illness and will contain health care
13 costs by avoiding the need for more costly inpatient
14 hospitalization.

15 (b) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall
16 reimburse psychiatrists, ~~and~~ federally qualified health
17 centers as defined in Section 1905(1)(2)(B) of the federal
18 Social Security Act, clinical psychologists, clinical social
19 workers, advanced practice registered nurses certified in
20 psychiatric and mental health nursing, and mental health
21 professionals and clinicians authorized by Illinois law to
22 provide behavioral ~~for mental~~ health services ~~provided by~~
23 ~~psychiatrists, as authorized by Illinois law,~~ to recipients via

1 ~~telehealth telepsychiatry~~. The Department, by rule, shall
2 establish: (i) criteria for such services to be reimbursed,
3 including appropriate facilities and equipment to be used at
4 both sites and requirements for a physician or other licensed
5 health care professional to be present at the site where the
6 patient is located; however, the Department shall not require
7 that a physician or other licensed health care professional be
8 physically present in the same room as the patient for the
9 entire time during which the patient is receiving telehealth
10 ~~telepsychiatry~~ services; and (ii) a method to reimburse
11 providers for mental health services provided by telehealth
12 ~~telepsychiatry~~.

13 (c) The Department shall reimburse any Medicaid certified
14 eligible facility or provider organization that acts as the
15 location of the patient at the time a telehealth service is
16 rendered, including substance abuse centers licensed by the
17 Department of Human Services' Division of Alcoholism and
18 Substance Abuse.

19 (d) On and after July 1, 2012, the Department shall reduce
20 any rate of reimbursement for services or other payments or
21 alter any methodologies authorized by this Code to reduce any
22 rate of reimbursement for services or other payments in
23 accordance with Section 5-5e.

24 (Source: P.A. 100-385, eff. 1-1-18.)