

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 5.26 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/5.26 new)

7 Sec. 5.26. Creates the Holistic Mental Health Care for
8 Youth in Care Task Force.

9 (a) The Holistic Mental Health Care for Youth in Care Task
10 Force is created. The Task Force shall review and make
11 recommendations regarding mental health and wellness services
12 provided to youth in care, including a program of holistic
13 mental health services provided 30 days after the date upon
14 which a youth is placed in foster care, in order to determine
15 how to best meet the mental health needs of youth in care.
16 Additionally, the Task Force shall:

17 (1) assess the capacity of State licensed mental
18 health professionals to provide preventive mental health
19 care to youth in care;

20 (2) review the current payment rates for mental health
21 providers serving the youth in care population;

22 (3) evaluate the process for smaller private practices
23 and agencies to bill through managed care, evaluate

1 delayed payments to mental health providers, and recommend
2 improvements to make billing practices more efficient;

3 (4) evaluate the recruitment and retention of mental
4 health providers who are persons of color to serve the
5 youth in care population; and

6 (5) any other relevant subject and processes as deemed
7 necessary by the Task Force.

8 (b) The Task Force shall have 9 members, comprised as
9 follows:

10 (1) The Director of Healthcare and Family Services or
11 the Director's designee.

12 (2) The Director of Children and Family Services or
13 the Director's designee.

14 (3) A member from the Office of the Governor who has a
15 focus on mental health issues.

16 (4) Two members from the House of Representatives,
17 appointed one each by the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of
19 Representatives.

20 (5) Two members of the Senate, appointed one each by
21 the President of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the
22 Senate.

23 (6) One member who is a former youth in care
24 recommended by the Illinois Chapter of the Foster Care
25 Alumni of America.

26 (7) One representative from the managed care entity

1 managing the YouthCare program recommended by the Director
2 of Healthcare and Family Services.

3 Task Force members shall serve without compensation but
4 may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the
5 performance of their duties.

6 (c) The Task Force shall meet at least once each month
7 beginning no later than July 1, 2022 and at other times as
8 determined by the Task Force. The Task Force may hold
9 electronic meetings and a member of the Task Force shall be
10 deemed present for the purposes of establishing a quorum and
11 voting.

12 (d) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services, in
13 conjunction with the Department of Children and Family
14 Services, shall provide administrative and other support to
15 the Task Force.

16 (e) The Task Force shall prepare and submit to the
17 Governor and the General Assembly at the end of each quarter a
18 report that summarizes its work and makes recommendations
19 resulting from its study.

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
21 becoming law.