

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0249

Psychiatric step down and coordination services-children.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Clem and Styvar and
Senator(s) Anselmi-Dalton, Bebout and Scott

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to children; requiring a study concerning
2 services for children receiving psychiatric services as
3 specified; requiring a report; and providing for an effective
4 date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) The department of education, the department of
11 family services and the department of health shall jointly
12 study the needs of children who receive psychiatric care at
13 public or private facilities in Wyoming. The study shall
14 focus on follow-up and step-down care that would benefit

1 children discharged from formal care settings and shall
2 include identification of:

3

4 (i) The need for follow-up or step-down care in
5 Wyoming;

6

7 (ii) The types of conditions that would most
8 benefit from follow-up or step-down care;

9

10 (iii) The types of follow-up or step-down care
11 that would most benefit children recently discharged from
12 mandatory care settings;

13

14 (iv) The appropriate length of follow-up or step-
15 down care to meet the objective of maximizing health outcomes
16 while balancing the cost of providing continuing follow-up or
17 step-down care;

18

19 (v) Currently available follow-up or step-down
20 care in Wyoming;

21

22 (vi) Any barriers that exist to the delivery of
23 effective follow-up or step-down care in Wyoming;

1

2 (vii) Any means to promote or generate follow-up
3 or step-down care options in Wyoming;

4

5 (viii) The systems or means that could be employed
6 to identify children who would most benefit from follow-up or
7 step-down care at the end of a period of psychiatric
8 treatment;

9

10 (ix) The capacity of state and local government
11 agencies to provide the types of follow-up or step-down
12 services that would be most beneficial;

13

14 (x) Private parties that would be available to
15 provide the types of follow-up or step-down care that would
16 be most beneficial;

17

18 (xi) The best means of retaining private parties
19 to provide follow-up or step-down care if private parties
20 represent a viable and effective means of providing the care;

21

22 (xii) The costs of providing effective follow-up
23 or step-down care by state or local government agencies,

1 through private parties or through a combination of agencies
2 and private parties.

3

4 (b) The study required by subsection (a) of this
5 section shall also focus on coordination services that are
6 designed to provide an appropriate transition of children
7 into follow-up or step-down care and that monitor the delivery
8 of follow-up and step-down care. This portion of the study
9 shall include consideration of:

10

11 (i) The need for and benefits of coordination
12 services;

13

14 (ii) The types of coordination services that would
15 be most beneficial to children transitioning to or receiving
16 follow-up or step-down care;

17

18 (iii) The appropriate length of coordination
19 services to meet the objective of maximizing health outcomes
20 while balancing the cost of providing continuing coordination
21 services;

22

1 (iv) The current availability of coordination
2 services and the state or local agencies, or private third
3 parties, that provide coordination services;

4

5 (v) The capacity of state and local government
6 agencies, or the availability of private third parties, to
7 provide coordination services;

8

9 (vi) Any barriers that currently exist to
10 providing effective coordination services in Wyoming;

11

12 (vii) Any means available to promote or generate
13 increased availability of coordination services to the extent
14 adequate services do not exist;

15

16 (viii) The best means to retain private parties to
17 provide coordination services if private parties represent a
18 viable and effective means of providing the services;

19

20 (ix) The costs of providing effective coordination
21 services by state or local agencies, through private parties
22 or through a combination of agencies and private parties.

23

1 **Section 2.**

2

3 (a) The department of education, the department of
4 family services and the department of health shall jointly
5 report the results of the study required by section 1 of this
6 act to the joint labor, health and social services interim
7 committee not later than August 1, 2019. The report shall:

8

9 (i) Report the result of the study required by
10 section 1 of this act;

11

12 (ii) Use the results of the study required by
13 section 1 of this act to recommend:

14

15 (A) The best means of providing follow-up and
16 step-down care and coordination services to children
17 receiving psychiatric care in Wyoming;

18

19 (B) The entity or entities which are or would
20 be best suited to provide additional follow-up and step-down
21 care and coordination services;

22

1 (C) The best means of delivering and paying
2 for follow-up and step-down care and coordination services;

3

4 (D) Means of funding follow-up and step-down
5 care and coordination services, which may include pooling
6 existing agency funds, creating new sources of funding or
7 using federal funding mechanisms, including Medicaid.

8

9 (iii) Include the identification of any statutory
10 changes necessary or beneficial to implement actions
11 recommended in the report.

12

13 (b) Upon receiving the report required by this section,
14 the joint labor, health and social services interim committee
15 may propose any necessary and appropriate legislation for
16 introduction in the 2020 legislative session that is designed
17 to provide beneficial follow-up and step-down care and
18 coordination services to children receiving psychiatric care
19 in Wyoming.

20

1 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as
3 provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

4

5

(END)