

SENATE, No. 1100

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Medication Management, Outreach, and Support Program in DHS; appropriates \$8 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** establishing a Medication Management, Outreach, and
2 Support Program in the Department of Human Services,
3 supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes and making an
4 appropriation.

5
6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

8
9 1. There is established a Medication Management, Outreach,
10 and Support Program in the Department of Human Services for
11 persons with severe and persistent mental illness living in the
12 community. The purpose of the program is to provide these
13 individuals with accessible medication management services to
14 enable them to live healthfully in the community.

15
16 2. The Medication Management, Outreach, and Support
17 Program shall provide licensed freestanding and hospital-based
18 public or private nonprofit provider organizations under contract
19 with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in the
20 Department of Human Services with the resources to:

21 a. educate, counsel, and support consumers of mental health
22 services living in the community so that early signs of problems are
23 identified quickly and addressed;

24 b. enable physicians, nurses, mental health professionals,
25 consumer peers, consumers, and consumers' families to work
26 together to find a medication regimen that minimizes side effects
27 and truly encourages good health; and

28 c. achieve continuous quality improvement goals.

29
30 3. A licensed freestanding or hospital-based public or private
31 nonprofit provider organization under contract with the Division of
32 Mental Health and Addiction Services in the Department of Human
33 Services may apply to the Commissioner of Human Services, in the
34 form prescribed by the commissioner, for a grant of funds to
35 operate a medication management program pursuant to this act.
36 The grant shall assist in the hiring and retention of clinical staff
37 including, but not limited to, psychiatrists, advance practice nurses,
38 social workers, mental health counselors, and caseworkers as may
39 be appropriate for the delivery of more intensive medication
40 management, outreach, after-hours coverage, early intervention,
41 crisis management, and support services as needed by consumers of
42 mental health services living in the community who are served by
43 the provider organization.

44
45 4. The Commissioner of Human Services shall seek to secure
46 the use of such funds or other resources from private nonprofit or
47 for-profit sources or the federal government to effectuate the
48 purposes of this act, as may be available.

1 5. There is appropriated \$8,000,000 from the General Fund to
2 the Department of Human Services to effectuate the purposes of this
3 act.

5 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

8 STATEMENT

10 This bill establishes a Medication Management, Outreach, and
11 Support Program in the Department of Human Services for persons
12 with severe and persistent mental illness living in the community.
13 The purpose of the program is to provide these individuals with
14 accessible medication management services to enable them to live
15 healthfully in the community.

16 The program shall provide licensed freestanding and hospital-
17 based public or private nonprofit provider organizations under
18 contract with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
19 in the department with the resources to:

--educate, counsel, and support consumers of mental health services living in the community so that early signs of problems are identified quickly and addressed;

23 --enable physicians, nurses, mental health professionals,
24 consumer peers, consumers, and consumers' families to work
25 together to find a medication regimen that minimizes side effects
26 and truly encourages good health; and

27 --achieve continuous quality improvement goals.

The bill provides that a licensed freestanding or hospital-based public or private nonprofit provider organization under contract with the division may apply to the Commissioner of Human Services for a grant to operate a medication management program. The grant shall assist in the hiring and retention of clinical staff including, but not limited to, psychiatrists, advance practice nurses, social workers, mental health counselors, and caseworkers as may be appropriate for the delivery of more intensive medication management, outreach, after-hours coverage, early intervention, crisis management, and support services as needed by consumers of mental health services living in the community who are served by the provider organization.

40 The bill also provides that the commissioner shall seek to secure
41 the use of such funds or other resources from private nonprofit or
42 for-profit sources or the federal government to effectuate the
43 purposes of the bill, as may be available.

44 The bill appropriates \$8,000,000 from the General Fund to the
45 Department of Human to effectuate the purposes of this bill.