
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 431M-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By adding a new definition of "marriage and family
4 therapist" to be appropriately inserted and to read:

5 "Marriage and family therapist" means a person licensed in
6 marriage and family therapy practice pursuant to chapter 451J."

7 2. By amending the definitions of "alcohol or drug
8 dependence outpatient services", "day treatment services",
9 "mental health outpatient services", "partial hospitalization
10 services", "qualified", and "treatment episode" to read:

11 "Alcohol or drug dependence outpatient services" means
12 alcohol or drug dependence nonresidential treatment provided on
13 an ambulatory basis to patients with alcohol or drug dependence
14 problems that includes interventions prescribed and performed by
15 qualified physicians, psychologists, licensed clinical social
16 workers, marriage and family therapists, or advanced practice
17 registered nurses. This definition shall not imply a broadening



1 of the scope of or granting of prescriptive authority
2 privileges, except as otherwise allowed pursuant to chapter 457.

3 "Day treatment services" means treatment services provided
4 by a hospital, mental health outpatient facility, or nonhospital
5 facility to patients who, because of their conditions, require
6 more than periodic hourly service. Day treatment services shall
7 be prescribed by a physician, psychologist, licensed clinical
8 social worker, marriage and family therapist, or advanced
9 practice registered nurse, and carried out under the supervision
10 of a physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social worker,
11 marriage and family therapist, or advanced practice registered
12 nurse. Day treatment services require less than twenty-four
13 hours of care and a minimum of three hours in any one day.

14 "Mental health outpatient services" means mental health
15 nonresidential treatment provided on an ambulatory basis to
16 patients with mental illness that includes interventions
17 prescribed and performed by a physician, psychologist, licensed
18 clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or
19 advanced practice registered nurse.

20 "Partial hospitalization services" means treatment
21 services, including in-hospital treatment services or benefits,
22 provided by a hospital or mental health outpatient facility to



1 patients who, because of their conditions, require more than
2 periodic hourly service. Partial hospitalization services shall
3 be prescribed by a physician or psychologist, and may be
4 prescribed by a marriage and family therapist or licensed
5 clinical social worker in consultation with a physician or
6 psychologist or an advanced practice registered nurse in
7 consultation with a physician or psychologist. Partial
8 hospitalization services require less than twenty-four hours of
9 care and a minimum of three hours in any one day.

10 "Qualified" means:

- 11 (1) Having skill in the diagnosis or treatment of
12 substance use disorders, based on a practitioner's
13 credentials, including but not limited to professional
14 education, clinical training, licensure, board or
15 other certification, clinical experience, letters of
16 reference, other professional qualifications, and
17 disciplinary action; or
- 18 (2) Being a licensed physician, psychologist, licensed
19 clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist,
20 or advanced practice registered nurse, and certified
21 pursuant to chapter 321.



1 "Treatment episode" means one admission to an accredited
2 hospital or nonhospital facility, or office of a qualified
3 physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social worker,
4 marriage and family therapist, or advanced practice registered
5 nurse for treatment of alcohol or drug dependence, or both, as
6 stipulated in a prescribed treatment plan and that would
7 generally produce remission in those who complete the treatment.
8 The prescribed treatment plan may include the provision of
9 substance abuse services in more than one location and may
10 include in-hospital, nonhospital residential, day treatment, or
11 alcohol or drug dependence outpatient services, or any
12 combination thereof. An admission for only detoxification
13 services shall not constitute a treatment episode."

14 SECTION 2. Section 431M-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) Covered benefits for alcohol dependence, drug
17 dependence, or mental illness insurance policies, hospital or
18 medical service plan contracts, and health maintenance
19 organization health plan contracts shall be limited to those
20 services certified by the insurance or health care plan
21 carrier's physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social
22 worker, marriage and family therapist, or advanced practice



1 registered nurse as medically or psychologically necessary at
2 the least restrictive appropriate level of care."

3 SECTION 3. Section 431M-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 **"§431M-4 Mental illness, alcohol and drug dependence**

6 **benefits.** (a) The covered benefit under this chapter shall not
7 be less than thirty days of in-hospital services per year. Each
8 day of in-hospital services may be exchanged for two days of
9 nonhospital residential services, two days of partial
10 hospitalization services, or two days of day treatment services.
11 Visits to a physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social
12 worker, marriage and family therapist, or advanced practice
13 registered nurse shall not be less than thirty visits per year
14 to hospital or nonhospital facilities or to mental health
15 outpatient facilities for day treatment or partial
16 hospitalization services. Each day of in-hospital services may
17 also be exchanged for two outpatient visits under this chapter;
18 provided that the patient's condition is such that the
19 outpatient services would reasonably preclude hospitalization.
20 The total covered benefit for outpatient services in subsections
21 (b) and (c) shall not be less than twenty-four visits per year;
22 provided that coverage of twelve of the twenty-four outpatient



1 visits shall apply only to the services under subsection (c).
2 The other covered benefits under this chapter shall apply to any
3 of the services in subsection (b) or (c). In the case of
4 alcohol and drug dependence benefits, the insurance policy may
5 limit the number of treatment episodes but may not limit the
6 number to less than two treatment episodes per lifetime.
7 Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit serious
8 mental illness benefits.

9 (b) Alcohol and drug dependence benefits shall be as
10 follows:

11 (1) Detoxification services as a covered benefit under
12 this chapter shall be provided either in a hospital or
13 in a nonhospital facility that has a written
14 affiliation agreement with a hospital for emergency,
15 medical, and mental health support services. The
16 following services shall be covered under
17 detoxification services:

- 18 (A) Room and board;
19 (B) Diagnostic x-rays;
20 (C) Laboratory testing; and
21 (D) Drugs, equipment use, special therapies, and
22 supplies.



1 Detoxification services shall be included as part of
2 the covered in-hospital services, but shall not be
3 included in the treatment episode limitation, as
4 specified in subsection (a);

- 5 (2) Alcohol or drug dependence treatment through
6 in-hospital, nonhospital residential, or day treatment
7 substance abuse services as a covered benefit under
8 this chapter shall be provided in a hospital or
9 nonhospital facility. Before a person qualifies to
10 receive benefits under this subsection, a qualified
11 physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social
12 worker, marriage and family therapist, or advanced
13 practice registered nurse shall determine that the
14 person suffers from alcohol or drug dependence, or
15 both; provided that the substance abuse services
16 covered under this paragraph shall include those
17 services that are required for licensure and
18 accreditation and shall be included as part of the
19 covered in-hospital services as specified in
20 subsection (a). Excluded from alcohol or drug
21 dependence treatment under this subsection are
22 detoxification services and educational programs to



1 which drinking or drugged drivers are referred by the
2 judicial system and services performed by mutual self-
3 help groups;

- 4 (3) Alcohol or drug dependence outpatient services as a
5 covered benefit under this chapter shall be provided
6 under an individualized treatment plan approved by a
7 qualified physician, psychologist, licensed clinical
8 social worker, marriage and family therapist, or
9 advanced practice registered nurse and shall be
10 services reasonably expected to produce remission of
11 the patient's condition. An individualized treatment
12 plan approved by a marriage and family therapist,
13 licensed clinical social worker, or an advanced
14 practice registered nurse for a patient already under
15 the care or treatment of a physician or psychologist
16 shall be done in consultation with the physician or
17 psychologist. Services covered under this paragraph
18 shall be included as part of the covered outpatient
19 services as specified in subsection (a); and
- 20 (4) Substance abuse assessments for alcohol or drug
21 dependence as a covered benefit under this section for
22 a child facing disciplinary action under section



1 302A-1134.6 shall be provided by a qualified
2 physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social
3 worker, marriage and family therapist, advanced
4 practice registered nurse, or certified substance
5 abuse counselor. The certified substance abuse
6 counselor shall be employed by a hospital or
7 nonhospital facility providing substance abuse
8 services. The substance abuse assessment shall
9 evaluate the suitability for substance abuse treatment
10 and placement in an appropriate treatment setting.

11 (c) Mental illness benefits.

12 (1) Covered benefits for mental health services set forth
13 in this subsection shall be limited to coverage for
14 diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders. All
15 mental health services shall be provided under an
16 individualized treatment plan approved by a physician,
17 psychologist, licensed clinical social worker,
18 marriage and family therapist, or advanced practice
19 registered nurse and must be reasonably expected to
20 improve the patient's condition. An individualized
21 treatment plan approved by a marriage and family
22 therapist, licensed clinical social worker or an



1 advanced practice registered nurse for a patient
2 already under the care or treatment of a physician or
3 psychologist shall be done in consultation with the
4 physician or psychologist;

5 (2) In-hospital and nonhospital residential mental health
6 services as a covered benefit under this chapter shall
7 be provided in a hospital or a nonhospital residential
8 facility. The services to be covered shall include
9 those services required for licensure and
10 accreditation, and shall be included as part of the
11 covered in-hospital services as specified in
12 subsection (a);

13 (3) Mental health partial hospitalization as a covered
14 benefit under this chapter shall be provided by a
15 hospital or a mental health outpatient facility. The
16 services to be covered under this paragraph shall
17 include those services required for licensure and
18 accreditation and shall be included as part of the
19 covered in-hospital services as specified in
20 subsection (a); and

21 (4) Mental health outpatient services shall be a covered
22 benefit under this chapter and shall be included as



1 part of the covered outpatient services as specified
2 in subsection (a)."

3 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Marriage and Family Therapists; Reimbursable Services

Description:

Includes marriage and family therapy among the mental illness, alcohol and drug dependence benefits required within the hospital and medical coverage offered under accident and sickness insurance policies and similar insurance products.
(HB1047 HD2)

