



2025-2026 General Assembly

HOUSE BILL 546: Medicaid Modernization, Part VI: Medicaid Healthcare Access and Stabilization Program Reimbursement for Psychiatric Hospitals

Analysis of: S.L. 2025-64, Part VI

Date: August 4, 2025

Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
Division Staff

Part VI of S.L. 2025-64 (House Bill 546) makes freestanding psychiatric hospitals eligible to receive increased Medicaid reimbursements, known as Healthcare Access and Stabilization Program or "HASP" reimbursements. Freestanding psychiatric hospitals will finance the State share of the cost of the HASP reimbursements through new hospital assessments. Implementation of these changes is contingent upon federal approval, and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is directed to request that approval.

The portions of this Part that amend the hospital assessment statutes to add freestanding psychiatric hospitals became effective on the first day of the next assessment quarter after it became law, which was October 1, 2025, and apply to hospital assessments imposed on or after that date. The remainder of this Part became effective July 7, 2025.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578