



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 9E.22: Modifications to Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy Medicaid Coverage / Closed Networks

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 9E.22

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Section 9E.22 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) adjusts a requirement pertaining to Medicaid coverage of Research-Based Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT), which includes Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy. For individualized service plans involving more than 16 hours of RB-BHT per week, this section changes the requirement that those plans be approved monthly by a prepaid health plan (PHP) or the Department of Health and Human Services to instead require reapproval every three months.

This section also amends the statutes pertaining to Medicaid managed care plan provider networks to require all PHPs to develop and maintain closed provider networks for peer support services, RB-BHT services, and community support team services.

This section became effective July 7, 2026.

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