

A BILL

25-759

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



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To amend the Department of Health Functions Clarification Act of 2001 to require the Department of Health to create a publicly available directory and dashboard of behavioral health services to improve accessibility to behavioral health care for children, youth, and their families.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Child Behavioral Health Services Dashboard Amendment Act of 2024”.

Sec. 2. The Department of Health Functions Clarification Act of 2001, effective October 3, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-28; D.C. Official Code § 7-731 *et seq.*), is amended by adding a new section 4902b to read as follows:

“Sec. 4902b. Child behavioral health services directory and dashboard.

“(a) By September 30, 2025, the Department of Health (“Department”), in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health (“DBH”), shall create a publicly accessible and searchable online directory of available behavioral health services in the District (“directory”), which shall be prominently located on the Department’s website.

“(b)(1) The directory shall be regularly updated to include:

“(A) A list of providers offering child and youth behavioral health screening services, behavioral health assessment services, behavioral health prevention and early

28 intervention services, and behavioral health treatment services in the District, including the
29 provider’s contact information and a link to their website; and

30 “(B) Behavioral health resources available through DBH’s school-based
31 behavioral health programs established by the Early Childhood and School-based Behavioral
32 Health Infrastructure Act of 2012, effective June 7, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-141; D.C. Official Code
33 § 2-1517.31 *et seq.*), at each District of Columbia Public Schools school and public charter
34 school.

35 “(2) The directory shall allow users to filter available providers included under
36 paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection by key features, including:

37 “(A) The age of population served;

38 “(B) The services provided;

39 “(C) The types of therapy offered;

40 “(D) The languages spoken by the provider;

41 “(E) Whether the provider offers specialized services for LGBTQIA+
42 individuals;

43 “(F) Whether the services are tailored to meet the needs of individuals
44 with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities;

45 “(G) Whether the services are available for or tailored to meet the needs of
46 foster youth or justice involved youth;

47 “(H) Whether the provider has competency or expertise in serving specific
48 populations, including victims of crime or gun violence, survivors of domestic violence, or

49 individuals and families experiencing homelessness;

50 “(I) The types of insurance accepted;

51 “(J) The zip code where the services are provided; and

52 “(K) The availability of telehealth.

53 “(3) The directory may include behavioral health resources currently offered by
54 the:

55 “(A) Department;

56 “(B) DBH;

57 “(C) Department of Human Services;

58 “(D) Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services;

59 “(E) Child and Family Services Agency; and

60 “(F) Department of Disability Services.

61 “(c) By September 30, 2026, the Department shall, in consultation with DBH, establish
62 an online dashboard or other information management tool for behavioral health services offered
63 at District hospitals, which shall include the current status of:

64 “(1) The number of psychiatric service beds at hospitals serving children and
65 youth up to age 17 in the District;

66 “(2) The treatment modalities used by each hospital; and

67 “(3) Whether the hospital accepts children and youth who are justice involved.

68 “(d) For the purposes of this section, the term:

69 “(1) “Behavioral health” shall have the same meaning as provided in section

70 102(1) of the Mental Health Service Delivery Reform Act of 2001, effective December 18, 2001
71 (D.C. Law 14-56; D.C. Official Code § 7-1131.02(1)).

72 “(2) “Behavioral health assessment” shall have the same meaning as provided in
73 section 102(1A) of the Mental Health Service Delivery Reform Act of 2001, effective December
74 18, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-56; D.C. Official Code § 7-1131.02(1A)).

75 “(3) “Behavioral health prevention and early intervention services” means
76 programs and services aimed at preventing and addressing behavioral health issues in children
77 and youth at an early stage through screening, counseling, education, community-based
78 interventions, and crisis response services to promote mental well-being and reduce the severity
79 of emerging issues.

80 “(4) “Behavioral health screening” shall have the same meaning as provided in
81 section 102(1D) of the Mental Health Service Delivery Reform Act of 2001, effective December
82 18, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-56; D.C. Official Code § 7-1131.02(1D)).

83 “(4) “Behavioral health treatment services” means stand-alone and co-occurring
84 treatment services for substance use and mental health disorders aimed at promoting and
85 improving an individual’s behavioral health, including screening, prevention, early intervention,
86 and treatment services.

87 “(5) “Child” means individuals under the age of 12 years.

88 “(6) “LGBTQIA+” means lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex,
89 asexual, or any other sexual or gender identity that falls outside of the traditional heterosexual
90 and cisgender norms.”

91 “(7) “Justice-involved youth” means youth who have committed a delinquent or
92 criminal act, engaged in a status offense, or are within the custody of the Department of Youth
93 Rehabilitation Services or Department of Corrections.

94 “(8) “Youth” means individuals between the ages of 12 and 26 years.”.

95 Sec. 3. Applicability.

96 (a) This act shall apply upon the date of inclusion of its fiscal effect in an approved
97 budget and financial plan.

98 (b) The Chief Financial Officer shall certify the date of the inclusion of its fiscal effect in
99 an approved budget and financial plan, and provide notice to the Budget Director of the Council
100 of the certification.

101 (c)(1) The Budget Director shall cause the notice of the certification to be published in
102 the District of Columbia Register.

103 (2) The date of publication of the notice of the certification shall not affect the
104 applicability of this act.

105 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

106 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
107 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
108 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

109 Sec. 5. Effective date.

110 This act shall take effect after approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
111 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto) and a 30-day period of congressional review

ENGROSSED ORIGINAL

112 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
113 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)).