May 23, 2000

H 1657. MEDICAID FUNDS/MENTAL HEALTH. TO DIRECT THE DEP'T OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO ALLOCATE MEDICAID FUNDS FOR THE 2000-2001 FISCAL YEAR FOR CERTAIN MENTAL HEALTH PURPOSES, AND TO CONDUCT OTHER ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. Directs Medicaid funds to (1) increase CAP MR/DD slots and CAP DA slots to serve additional Medicaid recipients and (2) expand residential services to provide mental health services to more Medicaid-eligible children. Effective Oct. 1, 2000, requires Dep't to ensure that local agencies screen and, if necessary, assess children in their custody and placement responsibility for mental health needs. Requires Dep't to adopt rules to ensure that screening and assessments are conducted. Requires Dep't to review and evaluate factors, including rates, in the closing of hospital psychiatric beds. Requires Dep't to develop a comprehensive plan to address issues raised by the U.S. Supreme Court in Olmstead v. L.C. & E.W., including placing qualified persons with mental disabilities in less restrictive settings. Requires report by Dep't to House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees by April 1, 2001.

Intro. by Cansler.

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