April 1, 2003

S 654. AMEND MH CONFIDENTIALITY STATUTES. TO AMEND THE CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 122C OF THE GENERAL STATUTES TO PERMIT IMPLEMENTATION OF MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM. Amends GS 122C-55 to allow area or state mental health facility (which includes county-run programs) to share confidential information to coordinate appropriate care, to conduct payment activities, or determine client eligibility for services. Allows state or area facility to share information with DHHS Sec'y if necessary to determine client eligibility for services, but disclosure limited to what is necessary for that purpose. Allows area authorities and county program to share confidential information if necessary for program evaluation, accreditation, audits, and similar administrative purposes. Deletes provisions in subsections (a) and (b) that specify that client consent not necessary for information shared under those subsections. Amends GS 122C-54(b) to specify that reports transmitted to court under that subsection must have been ordered pursuant to GS 15A-1002 (determination of competency to proceed in criminal trial).

Intro. by Metcalf.

Ref. to Health

GS 122C