

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 551
Mar 27, 2025
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

H

D

HOUSE BILL DRH10253-NLa-57

Short Title: Clubhouse Expansion.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Alston.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROMOTE GREATER ACCESS TO CLUBHOUSE MODEL PSYCHOSOCIAL
3 REHABILITATION DAY PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SEVERE AND
4 PERSISTENT MENTAL ILLNESS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental
7 Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services (DMH/DD/SUS), shall develop
8 and implement a plan for a statewide reimbursement methodology for State funded behavioral
9 health services provided to adults with a severe and persistent mental illness diagnosis who are
10 served by a Clubhouse model psychosocial rehabilitation day program. The plan shall include all
11 of the following:

- 12 (1) Incentives for clubhouses to become accredited by Clubhouse International.
- 13 (2) Consistent application of rates throughout regions served by local
14 management entities/managed care organizations (LME/MCOs).
- 15 (3) Education and training for LME/MCO staff and relevant staff within the
16 Department of Health and Human Services on the Clubhouse model and its
17 use in serving individuals with severe and persistent mental illness in this
18 State.
- 19 (4) A new service definition.

20 **SECTION 1.(b)** No later than June 1, 2026, DMH/DD/SUS shall submit a report to
21 the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services that contains all of the
22 following information related to the plan required by subsection (a) of this section:

- 23 (1) The proposed reimbursement methodology.
- 24 (2) A proposed time line for implementation for the reimbursement methodology.
- 25 (3) Any costs associated with implementation of the reimbursement
26 methodology.
- 27 (4) Details on the education and training developed for LME/MCOs and staff of
28 the Department of Health and Human Services.
- 29 (5) Details pertaining to lifting barriers to accessing services and lifting
30 burdensome service requirements.
- 31 (6) Any new service definitions created pursuant to this section.

32 **SECTION 2.** Effective July 1, 2026, there is appropriated from the General Fund to
33 the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental
34 Disabilities, and Substance Use Services, the sum of two million five hundred thousand dollars
35 (\$2,500,000) in recurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be used to implement the plan
36 under Section 1 of this act and provide funding for Clubhouse International (CI) accredited



1 member Clubhouses for current programs, expansion of services or locations served,
2 accreditation costs of a Clubhouse, or staff and Clubhouse member training and professional
3 development.

4 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health
5 Benefits, shall, to the extent allowable under G.S. 108A-54.1A, provide Medicaid coverage for
6 services included in the plan developed by DMH/DD/SUS pursuant to Section 1 of this act.

7 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.