

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 358 entitled “An act relating to technical corrections” respectfully
4 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be
5 amended as follows:

6 First: By striking out Sec. 52, 18 V.S.A. § 7304, in its entirety and inserting
7 in lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 52. [Deleted.]

9 Second: By striking out Secs. 53–59 in their entirety and inserting in lieu
10 thereof new Secs. 53–59 to read:

11 Sec. 53. 18 V.S.A. § 9371 is amended to read:

12 § 9371. PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

13 * * *

14 (4) Primary care must be preserved and enhanced so that Vermonters have
15 care available to them, preferably within their own communities. The health
16 care system must ensure that Vermonters have access to appropriate mental
17 health care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine’s triple aims standards~~ of
18 quality, access, and affordability ~~and that is~~ equivalent to other components of
19 health care as part of an integrated, holistic system of care. Other aspects of
20 Vermont’s health care infrastructure, including the educational and research
21 missions of the State’s academic medical center and other postsecondary

1 educational institutions, the nonprofit missions of the community hospitals,
2 and the critical access designation of rural hospitals, must be supported in such
3 a way that all Vermonters, including those in rural areas, have access to
4 necessary health services and that these health services are sustainable.

5 * * *

6 Sec. 54. 18 V.S.A. § 9382 is amended to read:

7 § 9382. OVERSIGHT OF ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATIONS

8 (a) In order to be eligible to receive payments from Medicaid or
9 commercial insurance through any payment reform program or initiative,
10 including an all-payer model, each accountable care organization shall obtain
11 and maintain certification from the Green Mountain Care Board. The Board
12 shall adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to establish standards and
13 processes for certifying accountable care organizations. To the extent
14 permitted under federal law, the Board shall ensure these rules anticipate and
15 accommodate a range of ACO models and sizes, balancing oversight with
16 support for innovation. In order to certify an ACO to operate in this State, the
17 Board shall ensure that the following criteria are met:

18 * * *

19 (2) The ACO has established appropriate mechanisms and care models
20 to provide, manage, and coordinate high-quality health care services for its
21 patients, including incorporating the Blueprint for Health, coordinating

1 services for complex high-need patients, and providing access to health care
2 providers who are not participants in the ACO. The ACO ensures equal access
3 to appropriate mental health care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine’s triple~~
4 ~~aims standards~~ of quality, access, and affordability ~~in a manner that is~~
5 equivalent to other ~~aspects~~ components of health care as part of an integrated,
6 holistic system of care.

7 * * *

8 Sec. 55. 18 V.S.A. § 9405(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The Secretary of Human Services or designee, in consultation with the
10 Chair of the Green Mountain Care Board and health care professionals and
11 after receipt of public comment, shall adopt a State Health Improvement Plan
12 that sets forth the health goals and values for the State. The Secretary may
13 amend the Plan as the Secretary deems necessary and appropriate. The Plan
14 shall include health promotion, health protection, nutrition, and disease
15 prevention priorities for the State; identify available human resources as well
16 as human resources needed for achieving the State’s health goals and the
17 planning required to meet those needs; identify gaps in ensuring equal access
18 to appropriate mental health care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine’s triple~~
19 ~~aims standards~~ of quality, access, and affordability equivalent to other
20 components of health care as part of an integrated, holistic system of care; and
21 identify geographic parts of the State needing investments of additional

1 resources in order to improve the health of the population. Copies of the Plan
2 shall be submitted to members of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
3 and the House Committee on Health Care.

4 Sec. 56. 18 V.S.A. § 9405a(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Each hospital shall have a protocol for meaningful public participation
6 in its strategic planning process for identifying and addressing health care
7 needs that the hospital provides or could provide in its service area. Needs
8 identified through the process shall be integrated with the hospital's long-term
9 planning. Each hospital shall post on its website a description of its identified
10 needs, strategic initiatives developed to address the identified needs, annual
11 progress on implementation of the proposed initiatives, opportunities for public
12 participation, and the ways in which the hospital ensures access to appropriate
13 mental health care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine's triple-aims standards~~
14 of quality, access, and affordability equivalent to other components of health
15 care as part of an integrated, holistic system of care. Hospitals may meet the
16 community health needs assessment and implementation plan requirement
17 through compliance with the relevant Internal Revenue Service community
18 health needs assessment requirements for nonprofit hospitals.

1 Sec. 57. 18 V.S.A. § 9437 is amended to read:

2 § 9437. CRITERIA

3 A certificate of need shall be granted if the applicant demonstrates that the
4 project serves the public good and the Board finds:

5 * * *

6 (9) The project will support equal access to appropriate mental health
7 care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine's triple aims~~ standards of quality,
8 access, and affordability equivalent to other components of health care as part
9 of an integrated, holistic system of care, as appropriate.

10 * * *

11 Sec. 58. 18 V.S.A. § 9456(c) is amended to read:

12 (c) Individual hospital budgets established under this section shall:

13 * * *

14 (6) demonstrate that they support equal access to appropriate mental
15 health care that meets ~~the Institute of Medicine's triple aims~~ standards of
16 quality, access, and affordability equivalent to other components of health care
17 as part of an integrated, holistic system of care.

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