

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 264

To expand access to community mental health centers and improve the quality of mental health care for all Americans.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. LEAHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To expand access to community mental health centers and improve the quality of mental health care for all Americans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Excellence in Mental  
5 Health Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
7 **CENTERS.**

8 Section 1913 of the Public Health Service Act (42  
9 U.S.C. 300x–2) is amended—

1           (1) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by striking “com-  
2           community mental health services” and inserting “be-  
3           havioral health services (of the type offered by feder-  
4           ally qualified community behavioral health centers  
5           consistent with subsection (c)(3))”;

6           (2) in subsection (b)—

7                   (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-  
8           ing the following:

9           “(1) services under the plan will be provided  
10          only through appropriate, qualified community pro-  
11          grams (which may include federally qualified com-  
12          munity behavioral health centers, child mental  
13          health programs, psychosocial rehabilitation pro-  
14          grams, mental health peer-support programs, out-  
15          patient addiction treatment programs, acute detoxi-  
16          fication services, and mental health primary con-  
17          sumer-directed programs); and”;

18                   (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “commu-  
19          nity mental health centers” and inserting “fed-  
20          erally qualified community behavioral health  
21          centers”;

22           (3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
23          following:

24          “(c) CRITERIA FOR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED COMMU-  
25          NITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTERS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
2 certify, and recertify at least every 5 years, federally  
3 qualified community behavioral health centers as  
4 meeting the criteria specified in this subsection.

5           “(2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months  
6 after the date of the enactment of the Excellence in  
7 Mental Health Act, the Administrator, in consulta-  
8 tion with State Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
9 Authorities, shall issue final regulations for certi-  
10 fying non-profit or local government centers as cen-  
11 ters under paragraph (1).

12           “(3) CRITERIA.—The criteria referred to in  
13 subsection (b)(2) are that the center performs each  
14 of the following:

15           “(A) Provide services in locations that en-  
16 sure services will be available and accessible  
17 promptly and in a manner which preserves  
18 human dignity and assures continuity of care.

19           “(B) Provide services in a mode of service  
20 delivery appropriate for the target population.

21           “(C) Provide individuals with a choice of  
22 service options where there is more than one ef-  
23 ficacious treatment.

1           “(D) Employ a core staff of clinical staff  
2 that is multidisciplinary and culturally and lin-  
3 guistically competent.

4           “(E) Provide services, within the limits of  
5 the capacities of the center, to any individual  
6 residing or employed in the service area of the  
7 center, regardless of the ability of the individual  
8 to pay.

9           “(F) Provide, directly or through contract,  
10 to the extent covered for adults in the State  
11 Medicaid plan under title XIX of the Social Se-  
12 curity Act and for children in accordance with  
13 section 1905(r) of such Act regarding early and  
14 periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment,  
15 each of the following services:

16               “(i) Screening, assessment, and diag-  
17 nosis, including risk assessment.

18               “(ii) Person-centered treatment plan-  
19 ning or similar processes, including risk as-  
20 sessment and crisis planning.

21               “(iii) Outpatient mental health and  
22 substance use services, including screening,  
23 assessment, diagnosis, psychotherapy, med-  
24 ication management, and integrated treat-  
25 ment for mental illness and substance

1 abuse which shall be evidence-based (in-  
2 cluding cognitive behavioral therapy and  
3 other such therapies which are evidence-  
4 based).

5 “(iv) Outpatient clinic primary care  
6 screening and monitoring of key health in-  
7 dicators and health risk (including screen-  
8 ing for diabetes, hypertension, and cardio-  
9 vascular disease and monitoring of weight,  
10 height, body mass index (BMI), blood pres-  
11 sure, blood glucose or HbA1C, and lipid  
12 profile).

13 “(v) Crisis mental health services, in-  
14 cluding 24-hour mobile crisis teams, emer-  
15 gency crisis intervention services, and cri-  
16 sis stabilization.

17 “(vi) Targeted case management  
18 (services to assist individuals gaining ac-  
19 cess to needed medical, social, educational,  
20 and other services and applying for income  
21 security and other benefits to which they  
22 may be entitled).

23 “(vii) Psychiatric rehabilitation serv-  
24 ices including skills training, assertive com-  
25 munity treatment, family psychoeducation,

1 disability self-management, supported em-  
2 ployment, supported housing services,  
3 therapeutic foster care services, and such  
4 other evidence-based practices as the Sec-  
5 retary may require.

6 “(viii) Peer support and counselor  
7 services and family supports.

8 “(G) Maintain linkages, and where possible  
9 enter into formal contracts with the following:

10 “(i) Federally qualified health centers.

11 “(ii) Inpatient psychiatric facilities  
12 and substance use detoxification, post-de-  
13 toxification step-down services, and resi-  
14 dential programs.

15 “(iii) Adult and youth peer support  
16 and counselor services.

17 “(iv) Family support services for fam-  
18 ilies of children with serious mental or sub-  
19 stance use disorders.

20 “(v) Other community or regional  
21 services, supports, and providers, including  
22 schools, child welfare agencies, juvenile and  
23 criminal justice agencies and facilities,  
24 housing agencies and programs, employers,  
25 and other social services.

1           “(vi) Onsite or offsite access to pri-  
2           mary care services.

3           “(vii) Enabling services, including  
4           outreach, transportation, and translation.

5           “(viii) Health and wellness services,  
6           including services for tobacco cessation.

7           “(H) Where feasible, provide outreach and  
8           engagement to encourage individuals who could  
9           benefit from mental health care to freely par-  
10          ticipate in receiving the services described in  
11          this subsection.

12          “(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
13          paragraph (1) shall be construed as prohibiting  
14          States receiving funds appropriated through the  
15          Community Mental Health Services Block Grant  
16          under subpart I of part B of this title from financ-  
17          ing qualified community programs (whether such  
18          programs meet the definition of eligible programs  
19          prior to or after the date of enactment of this sub-  
20          section).

21          “(5) LIMITATION.—With respect to federally  
22          qualified behavioral health centers authorized under  
23          this subsection, 20 percent of the total number of  
24          such centers shall become newly eligible to receive  
25          reimbursement under this section in each of the first

1 5 years after the initial year of eligibility through  
 2 fiscal year 2023. In implementing this paragraph,  
 3 the Secretary shall ensure geographic diversity of  
 4 such sites, take into account the ability of such sites  
 5 to provide required services, and the ability of such  
 6 sites to report required data.”.

7 **SEC. 3. MEDICAID COVERAGE AND PAYMENT FOR COMMU-**  
 8 **NITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER SERV-**  
 9 **ICES.**

10 (a) PAYMENT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY FEDER-  
 11 ALLY QUALIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
 12 CENTERS.—Section 1902(bb) of the Social Security Act  
 13 (42 U.S.C. 1396a(bb)) is amended—

14 (1) in the heading, by striking “AND RURAL  
 15 HEALTH CLINICS” and inserting “, FEDERALLY  
 16 QUALIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
 17 CENTERS, AND RURAL HEALTH CLINICS”;

18 (2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(and begin-  
 19 ning with fiscal year 2016 with respect to services  
 20 furnished on or after January 1, 2016, and each  
 21 succeeding fiscal year, for services described in sec-  
 22 tion 1905(a)(2)(D) furnished by a federally qualified  
 23 community behavioral health center)” after “by a  
 24 rural health clinic”;

25 (3) in paragraph (2)—



1 (A) by striking the heading and inserting  
2 “INITIAL FISCAL YEAR”;

3 (B) by inserting “(or, in the case of serv-  
4 ices described in section 1905(a)(2)(D) fur-  
5 nished by a federally qualified community be-  
6 havioral health center, for services furnished on  
7 and after January 1, 2016, during fiscal year  
8 2016)” after “January 1, 2001, during fiscal  
9 year 2001”;

10 (C) by inserting “(or, in the case of serv-  
11 ices described in section 1905(a)(2)(D) fur-  
12 nished by a federally qualified community be-  
13 havioral health center, during fiscal years 2014  
14 and 2015)” after “1999 and 2000”; and

15 (D) by inserting “(or, in the case of serv-  
16 ices described in section 1905(a)(2)(D) fur-  
17 nished by a federally qualified community be-  
18 havioral health center, during fiscal year  
19 2016)” before the period;

20 (4) in paragraph (3)—

21 (A) in the heading, by striking “FISCAL  
22 YEAR 2002 AND SUCCEEDING” and inserting  
23 “SUCCEEDING”; and

24 (B) by inserting “(or, in the case of serv-  
25 ices described in section 1905(a)(2)(D) fur-

1 nished by a federally qualified community be-  
2 havioral health center, for services furnished  
3 during fiscal year 2017 or a succeeding fiscal  
4 year)” after “2002 or a succeeding fiscal year”;  
5 (5) in paragraph (4)—

6 (A) by inserting “(or as a federally quali-  
7 fied community behavioral health center after  
8 fiscal year 2015)” after “or rural health clinic  
9 after fiscal year 2000”;

10 (B) by striking “furnished by the center  
11 or” and inserting “furnished by the federally  
12 qualified health center, services described in  
13 section 1905(a)(2)(D) furnished by the feder-  
14 ally qualified community behavioral health cen-  
15 ter, or”;

16 (C) in the second sentence, by striking “or  
17 rural health clinic” and inserting “, federally  
18 qualified community behavioral health center,  
19 or rural health clinic”;

20 (6) in paragraph (5), in each of subparagraphs  
21 (A) and (B), by striking “or rural health clinic” and  
22 inserting “, federally qualified community behavioral  
23 health center, or rural health clinic”;

24 (7) in paragraph (6), by striking “or to a rural  
25 health clinic” and inserting “, to a federally quali-

1       fied community behavioral health center for services  
2       described in section 1905(a)(2)(D), or to a rural  
3       health clinic”.

4       (b) INCLUSION OF COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL  
5 HEALTH CENTER SERVICES IN THE TERM MEDICAL AS-  
6 SISTANCE.—Section 1905(a)(2) of the Social Security Act  
7 (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)) is amended—

8             (1) by striking “and” before “(C)”; and

9             (2) by inserting before the semicolon at the end  
10       the following: “, and (D) federally qualified commu-  
11       nity behavioral health center services (as defined in  
12       subsection (l)(4))”.

13       (c) DEFINITION OF FEDERALLY QUALIFIED COMMU-  
14 NITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER SERVICES.—Section  
15 1905(l) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(l))  
16 is amended by adding at the end the following paragraph:

17             “(4)(A) The term ‘community behavioral health  
18       center services’ means services furnished to an indi-  
19       vidual at a federally qualified community behavioral  
20       health center (as defined by subparagraph (B)).

21             “(B) The term ‘federally qualified community  
22       behavioral health center’ means an entity that is cer-  
23       tified under section 1913(c) of the Public Health  
24       Service Act as meeting the criteria described in  
25       paragraph (3) of such section.”.

1 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section take effect on January 1, 2016.

3 **SEC. 4. COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INFRASTRUC-**  
4 **TURE IMPROVEMENT.**

5 Title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
6 280g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 **“PART H—COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH**  
9 **INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS**

10 **“SEC. 560. GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL**  
11 **HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.**

12 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may  
13 award grants to eligible entities to expend funds for the  
14 construction or modernization of facilities used to provide  
15 mental health and substance abuse services to individuals.

16 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term  
17 ‘eligible entity’ means—

18 “(1) a State that is the recipient of a Commu-  
19 nity Mental Health Services Block Grant under sub-  
20 part I of part B of title XIX and a Substance Abuse  
21 Prevention and Treatment Block Grant under sub-  
22 part II of such part; or

23 “(2) an Indian tribe or a tribal organization (as  
24 such terms are defined in sections 4(b) and 4(c) of

1 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-  
2 ance Act).

3 “(c) APPLICATION.—A eligible entity desiring a grant  
4 under this section shall submit to the Secretary an appli-  
5 cation at such time, in such manner, and containing—

6 “(1) a plan for the construction or moderniza-  
7 tion of facilities used to provide mental health and  
8 substance abuse services to individuals that—

9 “(A) designates a single State or tribal  
10 agency as the sole agency for the supervision  
11 and administration of the grant;

12 “(B) contains satisfactory evidence that  
13 such agency so designated will have the author-  
14 ity to carry out the plan;

15 “(C) provides for the designation of an ad-  
16 visory council, which shall include representa-  
17 tives of nongovernmental organizations or  
18 groups, and of the relevant State or tribal agen-  
19 cies, that aided in the development of the plan  
20 and that will implement and monitor any grant  
21 awarded to the eligible entity under this section;

22 “(D) in the case of an eligible entity that  
23 is a State, includes a copy of the State plan  
24 under section 1912(b) and section 1932(b);

1           “(E)(i) includes a listing of the projects to  
2           be funded by the grant; and

3           “(ii) in the case of an eligible entity that  
4           is a State, explains how each listed project  
5           helps the State in accomplishing its goals and  
6           objectives under the Community Mental Health  
7           Services Block Grant under subpart I of part B  
8           of title XIX and the Substance Abuse Preven-  
9           tion and Treatment Block Grant under subpart  
10          II of such part;

11          “(F) includes assurances that the facilities  
12          will be used for a period of not less than 10  
13          years for the provision of community-based  
14          mental health or substance abuse services for  
15          those who cannot pay for such services, subject  
16          to subsection (e); and

17          “(G) in the case of a facility that is not a  
18          public facility, includes the name and executive  
19          director of the entity who will provide services  
20          in the facility; and

21          “(2) with respect to each construction or mod-  
22          ernization project described in the application—

23                  “(A) a description of the site for the  
24                  project;

1           “(B) plans and specifications for the  
2 project and State or tribal approval for the  
3 plans and specifications;

4           “(C) assurance that the title for the site is  
5 or will be vested with either the public entity or  
6 private nonprofit entity who will provide the  
7 services in the facility;

8           “(D) assurance that adequate financial re-  
9 sources will be available for the construction or  
10 major rehabilitation of the project and for the  
11 maintenance and operation of the facility;

12           “(E) estimates of the cost of the project;  
13 and

14           “(F) the estimated length of time for com-  
15 pletion of the project.

16       “(d) SUBGRANTS BY STATES.—

17           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives a  
18 grant under this section may award a subgrant to  
19 a qualified community program (as such term is  
20 used in section 1913(b)(1)).

21           “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Subgrants awarded pur-  
22 suant to paragraph (1) may be used for activities  
23 such as—

24           “(A) the construction, expansion, and mod-  
25 ernization of facilities used to provide mental

1 health and substance abuse services to individ-  
2 uals;

3 “(B) acquiring and leasing facilities and  
4 equipment (including paying the costs of amor-  
5 tizing the principal of, and paying the interest  
6 on, loans for such facilities and equipment) to  
7 support or further the operation of the sub-  
8 grantee;

9 “(C) the construction and structural modi-  
10 fication (including equipment acquisition) of fa-  
11 cilities to permit the integrated delivery of be-  
12 havioral health and primary care of specialty  
13 medical services to individuals with co-occurring  
14 mental illnesses and chronic medical or surgical  
15 diseases at a single service site; and

16 “(D) acquiring information technology re-  
17 quired to accommodate the clinical needs of pri-  
18 mary and specialty care professionals.

19 “(3) LIMITATION.—Not to exceed 15 percent of  
20 grant funds may be used for activities described in  
21 paragraph (2)(D).

22 “(e) REQUEST TO TRANSFER OBLIGATION.—An eli-  
23 gible entity that receives a grant under this section may  
24 submit a request to the Secretary for permission to trans-



1 fer the 10-year obligation of facility use, as described in  
2 subsection (e)(1)(F), to another facility.

3 “(f) AGREEMENT TO FEDERAL SHARE.—As a condi-  
4 tion of receipt of a grant under this section, an eligible  
5 entity shall agree, with respect to the costs to be incurred  
6 by the entity in carrying out the activities for which such  
7 grant is awarded, that the entity will make available non-  
8 Federal contributions (which may include State or local  
9 funds, or funds from the qualified community program)  
10 in an amount equal to not less than \$1 for every \$1 of  
11 Federal funds provided under the grant.

12 “(g) REPORTING.—

13 “(1) REPORTING BY STATES.—During the 10-  
14 year period referred to in subsection (e)(1)(F), the  
15 Secretary shall require that a State that receives a  
16 grant under this section submit, as part of the re-  
17 port of the State required under the Community  
18 Mental Health Services Block Grant under subpart  
19 I of part B of title XIX and the Substance Abuse  
20 Prevention and Treatment Block Grant under sub-  
21 part II of such part, a description of the progress  
22 on—

23 “(A) the projects carried out pursuant to  
24 the grant under this section; and

1           “(B) the assurances that the facilities in-  
2           volved continue to be used for the purpose for  
3           which they were funded under such grant dur-  
4           ing such 10-year period.

5           “(2) REPORTING BY INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIB-  
6           AL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish  
7           reporting requirements for Indian tribes and tribal  
8           organizations that receive a grant under this section.  
9           Such reporting requirements shall include that such  
10          Indian tribe or tribal organization provide a descrip-  
11          tion of the progress on—

12                 “(A) the projects carried out pursuant to  
13                 the grant under this section; and

14                 “(B) the assurances that the facilities in-  
15                 volved continue to be used for the purpose for  
16                 which they were funded under such grant dur-  
17                 ing the 10-year period referred to in subsection  
18                 (c)(1)(F).

19          “(h) FAILURE TO MEET OBLIGATIONS.—

20                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If an eligible entity that re-  
21                 ceives a grant under this section fails to meet any  
22                 of the obligations of the entity required under this  
23                 section, the Secretary shall take appropriate steps,  
24                 which may include—

1           “(A) requiring that the entity return the  
2 unused portion of the funds awarded under this  
3 section for the projects that are incomplete; and

4           “(B) extending the length of time that the  
5 entity must ensure that the facility involved is  
6 used for the purposes for which it is intended,  
7 as described in subsection (c)(1)(F).

8           “(2) HEARING.—Prior to requesting the return  
9 of the funds under paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary  
10 shall provide the entity notice and opportunity for a  
11 hearing.

12          “(i) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary may establish  
13 intergovernmental and interdepartmental memorandums  
14 of agreement as necessary to carry out this section.

15          “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
16 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
17 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years  
18 2014 through 2018.”.

○