

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 446

BY SENATOR PETERSON

MENTAL HEALTH. Prohibits any healthcare facility from discriminating in its offering and providing services to a person based on the person's mental illness or disorder. (8/1/12)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact RS. 40:2013.7, relative to mental health; to provide a prohibition on discrimination  
3 by a healthcare facility based on a person's mental illness or disorder; to provide  
4 definitions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. RS. 40:2013.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§ 2013.7. Prohibition on discrimination by a healthcare facility based on a**  
8 **mental illness or disorder**

9 **A. No healthcare facility shall discriminate in the offering or the**  
10 **providing of its services to any person based on the person's mental illness or**  
11 **disorder.**

12 **B. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall mean:**

13 **(1) "Health care facility" means any facility or institution, whether**  
14 **public or private, that offers diagnosis, treatment, and inpatient or ambulatory**  
15 **care of two or more unrelated persons.**

16 **(2) "Mental illness or disorder" means any of various conditions**  
17 **characterized by impairment of an individual's normal cognitive, emotional, or**

1            **behavioral functioning, and caused by social, psychological, biochemical,**  
2            **genetic, or other factors.**

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

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DIGEST

Proposed law provides no healthcare facility shall discriminate in the offering or the providing of its services to any person based on the person's mental illness or disorder.

Proposed law defines "healthcare facility" and "mental illness or disorder".

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Adds R.S.40:2013.7)