

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11

H.115

Introduced by Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Burditt of West  
Rutland, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans  
Town, French of Randolph, Koch of Barre Town, Moran of  
Wardsboro, Spengler of Colchester, and Woodward of Johnson

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; mental health; Resource and Referral Registry

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish an  
electronic mental health resource and referral system within the Blueprint for  
Health.

12 An act relating to the Mental Health Resource and Referral Registry

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 701 is amended to read:

15 § 701. DEFINITIONS

16 ~~For the purposes of~~ As used in this chapter:

17 \* \* \*

18 (16) “Mental Health Resource and Referral Registry” means an  
19 electronic database developed and maintained by the Director of the Blueprint  
20 to support and connect health care professionals specializing in mental health

1 or substance abuse treatment, medical homes, community health teams,  
2 advocates, families, and consumers pursuant to section 710 of this title.

3 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 702(d) is amended to read:

4 (d) The Blueprint for Health shall include the following initiatives:

5 \* \* \*

6 (8) The development and maintenance of the Mental Health Resource  
7 and Referral Registry established in section 710 of this title.

8 Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 710 is added to read:

9 § 710. RESOURCE AND REFERRAL REGISTRY

10 (a) An electronic Mental Health Resource and Referral Registry shall be  
11 developed and maintained by the Director of the Blueprint for Health for the  
12 purpose of supporting and connecting health care professionals specializing in  
13 mental health or substance abuse treatment, medical homes, community health  
14 teams, advocates, families, and consumers.

15 (b)(1) The Registry shall contain a list of licensed, certified, or rostered  
16 mental health and substance abuse professionals in Vermont who serve clients  
17 in inpatient or outpatient settings. The list shall be generated using data  
18 maintained by the Secretary of State and by the Departments of Health and of  
19 Mental Health. Information about each professional listed on the Registry  
20 shall include:

21 (A) the professional's name;

1           (B) office address, telephone number, and website, if any;

2           (C) office hours;

3           (D) office accessibility for individuals with a physical disability;

4           (E) relevant education and degrees;

5           (F) relevant certifications, licenses, or rosters;

6           (G) professional affiliations;

7           (H) languages spoken;

8           (I) specialties, areas of expertise, or treatment modalities;

9           (J) ability to accept new patients; and

10          (K) populations served, including whether Medicaid and Medicare  
11          are accepted.

12          (2) The Director of the Blueprint shall allow mental health and  
13          substance abuse professionals to remove their names from the Registry.

14          (c) The Registry shall include, by region, electronic links to, and telephone  
15          numbers, e-mail addresses, and physical addresses for, the following:

16               (1) intensive inpatient and outpatient services;

17               (2) crisis services;

18               (3) peer-supported services;

19               (4) other community mental health and substance abuse services;

20               (5) the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation;

21               (6) the Health Care and Mental Health Ombudsmen;

1           (7) Vermont Legal Aid's Mental Health Law Project; and

2           (8) Disability Rights Vermont.

3           (d) The Director of the Blueprint shall ensure the Registry contains current  
4           information and shall employ outreach and educational activities to promote  
5           knowledge and use of the Registry by health care professionals specializing in  
6           mental health or substance abuse treatment, medical homes, community health  
7           teams, advocates, families, and consumers.

8           Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

9           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.