

Rosenberg Corey

From: Angela McCoy <angela@trinitycounseling.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 5:11 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Subject: Support SB 860

Please support SB 860 and truly offer REAL PARITY for Mental Health!! Many insurers like BCBS and Optum Behavioral Health have been trying to get around parity by punishing the providers by slashing the reimbursements rates of CPT 90837 and denying the provider to make the best care decisions for their patients. Just today, a client called and they were told by the representative from Optum BH that they would only cover sessions under 50 min and only once a week. How can the insurance company tell the client PRIOR to any knowledge of their issues what is the best treatment plan for the client? We have denials all the time for longer sessions or multiple appointments per week for clients who really need these services. We end up providing FREE services to our clients because we are bound by ethics to not deny them because of their horrible insurance. Insurers like Optum are being sued in other states since they have found ways around parity - and it is horrible. We live in an area where mental health access is already at an all time low and with one of the highest teen suicide rates. These practices to dictate care to clients for mental health services needs to stop. So glad there is a bill like SB 860 out there to protect the clients and the providers so they can do the HARD work that is so needed!

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Best Regards,
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