

HOUSE BILL 2379

By McCormick

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to evidence based criteria for funding certain programs in the department of health.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, 68-1-125(a)(1)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(B) Scientific research using methods that meet high scientific standards, evaluated using either randomized controlled research designs, or quasi-experimental research designs with equivalent comparison groups. The effects of such programs must have demonstrated using two (2) or more separate client samples that the program improves client outcomes central to the purpose of the program;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, 68-1-125(a)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) "In-home visitation" means a service delivery strategy that is carried out in the homes of families of children from conception to school age that provides culturally sensitive face-to-face visits by nurses, other professionals, or trained and supervised lay workers to promote positive parenting practices, enhance the socio-emotional and cognitive development of children, improve the health of the family, and empower families to be self-sufficient. "In-home visitation" does not include any Medicaid funded disease management or case management services or programs which may include home visits.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-125(b)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b)

(1) With the long-term emphasis on procuring services whose methods have been measured, tested, and demonstrated to improve client outcomes, the department of health, and any other state agency that administers funds related to in-home visitation programs shall ensure that fifty percent (50%) of state-appropriated funds expended for in-home visitation services are used for evidenced-based models during fiscal year 2012-2013 and that seventy-five percent (75%) of such funds are used for evidenced-based programs during fiscal year 2013-2014 and each subsequent fiscal year thereafter.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of health is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.