

By: Powell

S.B. No. 662

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the adoption of rules regarding the provision of peer  
3 support services to persons older than a certain age and the  
4 provision of those services under Medicaid.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 531.0999(a), Government Code, as added  
7 by Chapter 1015 (H.B. 1486), Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular  
8 Session, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) With input from mental health and substance use peer  
10 specialists and the work group described by Subsection (b), the  
11 commission shall develop and the executive commissioner shall  
12 adopt:

13 (1) rules that establish training requirements for  
14 peer specialists so that they are able to provide services to  
15 persons with mental illness or services to persons with substance  
16 use conditions;

17 (2) rules that establish certification and  
18 supervision requirements for peer specialists;

19 (3) rules that define the scope of services that peer  
20 specialists may provide;

21 (4) rules that distinguish peer services from other  
22 services that a person must hold a license to provide; ~~and~~

23 (5) rules that authorize the provision of peer  
24 services by a peer specialist to persons who are 14 years of age or

1 older; and

2           (6) any other rules necessary to protect the health  
3 and safety of persons receiving peer services.

4           SECTION 2. Section 32.024(kk), Human Resources Code, as  
5 added by Chapter 1015 (H.B. 1486), Acts of the 85th Legislature,  
6 Regular Session, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

7           (kk) The commission in its rules and standards governing the  
8 scope of services provided under the medical assistance program  
9 shall include peer services provided by certified peer specialists,  
10 including peer services provided to persons who are 14 years of age  
11 or older, to the extent permitted by federal law.

12           SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
13 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
14 Services Commission shall adopt rules as necessary to implement the  
15 changes in law made by this Act.

16           SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
17 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
18 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
19 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
20 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
21 waiver or authorization is granted.

22           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.