

## HOUSE BILL No. 2236

By Committee on Appropriations

1-25

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9 AN ACT enacting the geriatric mental health act; establishing a geriatric  
10 service demonstration program administered by the department on  
11 aging.

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13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. (a) The secretary of aging shall establish a geriatric service  
15 demonstration program to provide grants, within the limits of appropri-  
16 ations therefor, to providers of mental health care to the elderly. Such  
17 program shall be administered by the department on aging.

18 (b) Grants may be awarded by the department on aging to providers  
19 of care to older adults with mental disabilities for the purposes which may  
20 include one or more of the following:

21 (1) Community integration programs which enable older adults with  
22 mental disabilities to age in the community and prevent the unnecessary  
23 use of institutional care;

24 (2) improved quality of treatment programs for older adults which  
25 improve the quality of mental health care in the community;

26 (3) programs which integrate mental health and aging services with  
27 alcohol, drug, health and other support services;

28 (4) programs which make more efficient use of mental health and  
29 health professionals by developing alternative service roles for parapro-  
30 fessionals and volunteers, including peers, and programs more effective  
31 in recruitment and retention of bi-lingual, bi-cultural or culturally com-  
32 petent staff;

33 (5) family support programs which provide support for family care-  
34 givers, to include the provision of care to older adults by younger family  
35 members and by older adults to younger family members;

36 (6) programs which have developed and implemented innovative fi-  
37 nancing methodologies to support the delivery of best practices;

38 (7) specialized populations programs which concentrate on outreach  
39 to, engagement of and effective treatment of cultural minorities;

40 (8) programs which compile, distribute and make available informa-  
41 tion on clinical developments, program innovations and policy develop-  
42 ments which improve the care to older adults with mental disabilities;  
43 and

- 1     (9) staff training programs which offer on-going training initiatives
- 2 including improved clinical and cultural skills, evidence based geriatric
- 3 mental health skills, and the identification and management of mental,
- 4 behavioral and substance abuse disorders among older adults.
- 5     (c) The secretary of aging may adopt rules and regulations necessary
- 6 to implement the provisions of this section.
- 7     (d) This section shall be known and may be cited as the “geriatric
- 8 mental health act.”
- 9     Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 10 publication in the statute book.