

HOUSE BILL No. 2057

By Committee on Aging and Long Term Care

1-22

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

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

13 Section 1. (a) The secretary of aging shall establish a geriatric mental
14 health service program to provide funding for education, outreach and
15 services through the area agencies on aging targeted to older adults ex-
16 periencing mental health issues and to the providers who work with them.
17 This program shall be administered by the department on aging.

18 (b) Funding for the geriatric mental health service program admin-
19 istered by the secretary of aging, shall be made available to the area
20 agencies on aging and utilized in a collaborative effort with other state
21 agencies and mental health service agencies and organizations to provide
22 education, outreach and mental health services to older adults.

23 (c) Such service shall be provided for older adults regardless of living
24 arrangements whether recipients rent or own a home or they reside in a
25 continuing care retirement center, a skilled nursing facility or other adult
26 care home licensed by the department on aging or the department of
27 health and environment. The area agencies on aging shall contract with
28 qualified service providers to deliver services in their planning and service
29 areas to include: (1) Education on identification of mental illness, diag-
30 nosis, risk factors and service options; (2) outreach to older adults, families
31 and caregivers to assist in the identification and referral of older adults
32 experiencing mental health issues; and (3) mental health treatment by
33 qualified mental health professionals in the home or other residence set-
34 ting where the older adults reside.

35 (d) The secretary of aging may adopt rules and regulations necessary
36 to implement the provisions of this section, including requirements for
37 outcome and performance measure and program evaluation.

38 (e) This section shall be known and may be cited as the geriatric
39 mental health act.

40 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
41 publication in the statute book.