

Senate Bill 847

Sponsored by Senator STARR

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Department of Human Services to create pilot project to train mental health professionals in serving mental health needs of older adults. Requires department to adopt rules establishing criteria for participation in program and measuring outcomes. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for purposes of program.

Sunset June 30, 2012.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to geriatric mental health professional certification program; and appropriating money.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) There is established in the Department of Human Services a pilot project**
5 **for a geriatric mental health professional certification program.**

6 **(2)(a) The purpose of the program is to provide education and training for mental health**
7 **professionals serving mental health programs for older adults throughout the state.**

8 **(b) The program shall address the special mental health needs of older adults and shall**
9 **focus on prevention and treatment of emotional disturbance, mental illness and drug de-**
10 **pendency in older adults. Emphasis shall also be placed on training in early identification and**
11 **intervention techniques designed to allow mental health professionals to maximize treatment**
12 **outcomes.**

13 **(3) The department shall adopt rules to implement the program, including, but not lim-**
14 **ited to:**

15 **(a) Eligibility criteria for participation in the program;**

16 **(b) Standards for certification of participants;**

17 **(c) Curriculum for the program that is based on best practices of geriatric mental health**
18 **professionals and similar geriatric mental health programs in other states;**

19 **(d) Qualifications for mental health professionals who will staff the course; and**

20 **(e) Methods for measuring program outcomes, including the capacity of persons who**
21 **complete the program to provide evidence-based geriatric mental health services to older**
22 **adults, the level of recovery and safety of older adults who receive those services and the**
23 **ability of those recipients to sustain maximum independence.**

24 **(4) Based on criteria established by the department to maximize the information obtained**
25 **from implementation of the pilot program, the department shall select two metropolitan**
26 **statistical areas as determined by the most recent federal decennial census and three rural**
27 **areas as sites for the pilot project.**

28 **SECTION 2. There is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the**
29 **biennium beginning July 1, 2007, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the**
30 **purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2007 Act.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2007 Act is repealed on June 30, 2012.**

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