
SB 5525 Budget Note Reports Update: Behavioral Health Provider SUD Accreditation

Presented to Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
January 10, 2024

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Background

- HB 2257 (2019) created the Substance Use Disorder Accreditation Advisory Group (SUDAAG)
- Gathered information and feedback from both accredited and un-accredited providers
- Made recommendations
 - Not unanimous

Recommendations

- Require all SUD treatment programs to become accredited
- “Recognize” accreditation standards by reducing oversight and administrative burden
- Fund OHA staff to facilitate accreditation
- Roll out accreditation requirement in phases
- Support providers through accreditation process with state funds

Potential Benefits

- Move closer to parity with medical/surgical care
- Accelerate integration of care for substance use and mental health disorders
- Provide stable framework to deliver quality care
- Assure that care is individualized, is evidence-based, and incorporates clinical best practices
- Align with the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission's 2020- 2025 Strategic Plan recommendations

Potential Risks

- Equity concerns
 - Especially regarding small, rural, and culturally specific providers
- Fiscal burden
 - Cost of accreditation process to providers reported at \$150,000 to \$250,000
 - OHA staffing to support accreditation
- Administrative burden
 - Lengthy accreditation process
 - OHA cannot remove all other licensing and certification requirements

Thank you

