

## NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families

DATE: August 15, 2019

### Upcoming Pertinent Legislative Meetings:

Date and Time	Committee	Location Legislative Office Building (LOB) Legislative Building (LB) Audio link: <a href="https://www.ncleg.gov/Audio">https://www.ncleg.gov/Audio</a>
Tuesday, August 20, 9 a.m.	House Appropriations	Room 643, LOB, audio available

### **Bills that are on the move:**

**S199:** Child Sex Abuse/Strengthen Laws, the bill has passed the Senate and the House. The Senate did not concur with the changes made in the House on 08/06/19. The bill will now go to a conference committee.

**S361:** Health Care Expansion Act of 2019 passed the House on 08/12/19. It is on the Senate calendar for concurrence with the House changes.

**H822:** Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan, the bill has passed through House Health and House Rules Committees and has been placed on the House calendar for consideration.

### **S361 at a Glance:**

The bill touches on several seemingly unrelated parts of the healthcare system. The overall goal is related to access to healthcare. A few relevant provisions are:

- Allowance for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists to conduct first-level commitment exams;
- Increased access to telehealth and an update of Medicaid telemedicine policies;
- Elimination of redundancies in Adult Care Home inspections.

### **H822 at a Glance:**

This week has been a busy week for H822 in the House. The Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan (H822) is currently on the House calendar after passing through the House Health and Rules committees. This bill expressly directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive plan for publicly funded behavioral health systems and services. The purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to ensure DHHS oversees all Medicaid, NC Health Choice, and county-funded programs. DHHS will need to submit yearly reviews to ensure all stakeholders, including prepaid health plans, are engaged in the mission, vision, and goals of the Comprehensive Plan. Previously, prepaid health plans were not specifically included in this. The

Comprehensive Plan must include a 10-year vision for the future of the State behavioral health system to be reviewed every three years with a yearly review of past objectives. H822 adds staffing levels, training, and competency prepaid health plans to the required parts of the assessment. The bill also requires examining the accessibility of behavioral health plans with six identified standards. H822 mandates coordination and integration of behavioral health care between providers, LME/MCOs, and prepaid health plans. In the event that DHHS cannot develop a plan by December 1<sup>st</sup>, they must identify a third-party plan that can be used by January 31, 2020.

**Additional bills we are tracking:**

[H5](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see S3)  
[H75](#): School Mental Health Screening Study  
[H76](#): School Safety Omnibus  
[H102](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see S245)  
[H121](#): Expunction Related to Raise the Age/No Conviction  
[H234](#): Funds for Child Advocacy Centers  
[H241](#): Education Bond Act of 2019  
[H250](#): Dept. of Health and Human Services Revisions  
[H291](#): Continue Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Work Group (SSWG) and Extend Children's Council  
[H297](#): Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact  
[H434](#): Suicide Risk Ref./Mental Health/Teen Violence  
[H471](#): Reduce Administrative Duplication MH/DD/SAS Providers  
[H555](#): Modernize Medicaid Telemedicine Policies  
[H580](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see S636)  
[H601](#): Funds for NAMI North Carolina, Inc.  
[H609](#): Raise the Age Modifications  
[H613](#): Essential Services for Homeless Youth  
[H655](#): NC Health Care for Working Families  
[H702](#): Modify Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils (see S555)  
[H826](#): Standardized Assessment/Foster Care Pilot  
[H935](#): Social Services Reform/DHHS Recommendations  
[H956](#): Funds/Youth Villages and Other Purposes  
[H966](#): 2019 Appropriations Act, vetoed on 6/28/19

[S3](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see H5)  
[S175](#): Funds/Eliminate NC Pre-K Waitlist  
[S212](#): NC Fast/Early Child/Transformation/ACH Assess., Conference Committee has been appointed  
[S245](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see H102)  
[S251](#): Modernization of Drug Court Programs  
[S382](#): School Psychologist Compensation and Recruitment (see H482)  
[S427](#): Smart Start Funds (see H124)

[S476](#): Compt-Based Assess. & Mental Health/Teen Viol., awaiting Conference Committee appointments

[S549](#): Child Welfare/Behavioral Health Pilot/Funds

[S624](#): Guilford County Mental Health Facility /Funds (see H360)

[S636](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see H580)

**Bills that have been signed into Law:**

[H301](#): CIP Revisions/Juvenile Code, signed by the governor on 6/21/19 as Ch. SL 2019-33.

[S413](#): Raise the Age Modifications, signed into law on 8/1/19 as Ch. SL 2019-186.

[H656](#): Medicaid Changes for Transformation, signed into law by the Governor on 7/4/19 as Ch. SL 2019-81.