



Colorado Legislative Council Staff
FINAL
NO FISCAL IMPACT
(Replaces fiscal impact dated January 10, 2006)

Drafting Number: LLS 06-0067

Date: May 19, 2006

Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Windels
Rep. Solano

Bill Status: Signed into Law

Fiscal Analyst: Amy Larsen (303-866-3488)

TITLE: CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES COVERAGE UNDER HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS.

Summary of Assessment

This bill requires individual and group health benefit plans providing coverage for mental health services to provide the coverage regardless of whether the services are (1) voluntary or (2) court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice systems. The health plan is only required to provide coverage for benefits that are medically necessary and otherwise covered under the plan.

The Department of Regulatory Agencies, Division of Insurance, anticipates a minimal amount of rule promulgation, new rate filings and consumer inquiries as a result of this bill. However, these activities are considered part of the division's ongoing workload. In addition, health plans offered to state employees and to Department of Health Care Policy and Financing clients already include this coverage. Therefore, this bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

The Governor signed the bill into law on March 31, 2006.

Departments Contacted

Health Care Policy and Financing
Regulatory Agencies

Personnel and Administration
Judicial