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Health and Human Services Reporting Requirements

2025 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Logan J. Monson

Senate Sponsor: Evan J. Vickers

LONG TITLE
General Description:
This bill repeals reporting requirements related to the Department of Health and Human
Services.
Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
• repeals reporting requirements related to the Department of Health and Human Services
Money Appropriated in this Bill:
None
Other Special Clauses:
None
Utah Code Sections Affected:
AMENDS:
26B-1-207, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 178, 240
26B-1-232, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 305
26B-1-421, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 217, 240 and 507
26B-1-427, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 245
26B-2-309, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 305
26B-3-107, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 306
26B-5-102 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 250, 420
26B-5-607, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 282 and renumbered and
amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 308
63A-17-806, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 329, 530
63M-7-204, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 345

Section 1. Section 26B-1-207 is amended to read:
26B-1-207 . Policymaking responsibilities Regulations for local health
departments prescribed by department Local standards not more stringent than
federal or state standards Consultation with local health departments Committee to
evaluate health policies and to review federal grants.
(1) In establishing public health policy, the department shall consult with the local health
departments established under Title 26A, Chapter 1, Local Health Departments.
(2)(a) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,
the department may prescribe by administrative rule made in accordance with Title
63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, reasonable requirements not
inconsistent with law for a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102.
(b) Except where specifically allowed by federal law or state statute, a local health
department, as defined in Section 26A-1-102, may not establish standards or
regulations that are more stringent than those established by federal law, state statute,
or administrative rule adopted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
Administrative Rulemaking Act.
(c) Nothing in this Subsection (2), limits the ability of a local health department to make
standards and regulations in accordance with Subsection 26A-1-121(1)(a) for:
(i) emergency rules made in accordance with Section 63G-3-304; or
(ii) items not regulated under federal law, state statute, or state administrative rule.
(3)(a) As used in this Subsection (3):
(i) "Committee" means the committee established under Subsection (3)(b).
(ii) "Exempt application" means an application for a federal grant that meets the
criteria established under Subsection (3)(c)(iv).
(iii) "Expedited application" means an application for a federal grant that meets the
criteria established under Subsection $(3)(c)(v)$.
(iv) "Federal grant" means a grant from the federal government that could provide
funds for local health departments to help them fulfill their duties and
responsibilities.
(v) "Reviewable application" means an application for a federal grant that is not an
exempt application.
(b) The department shall establish a committee consisting of:
(i) the executive director, or the executive director's designee;
(ii) two representatives of the department, appointed by the executive director; and

63 (iii) three representatives of local health departments, appointed by all local health 64 departments. 65 (c) The committee shall: 66 (i) evaluate the allocation of public health resources between the department and 67 local health departments, including whether funds allocated by contract were 68 allocated in accordance with the formula described in Section 26A-1-116; 69 (ii) evaluate policies and rules that affect local health departments in accordance with 70 Subsection (3)(g); 71 (iii) consider department policy and rule changes proposed by the department or local 72 health departments; 73 (iv) establish criteria by which an application for a federal grant may be judged to 74 determine whether it should be exempt from the requirements under Subsection 75 (3)(d); and 76 (v) establish criteria by which an application for a federal grant may be judged to 77 determine whether committee review under Subsection (3)(d)(i) should be delayed 78 until after the application is submitted because the application is required to be 79 submitted under a timetable that makes committee review before it is submitted 80 impracticable if the submission deadline is to be met. 81 (d)(i) The committee shall review the goals and budget for each reviewable 82 application: 83 (A) before the application is submitted, except for an expedited application; and 84 (B) for an expedited application, after the application is submitted but before 85 funds from the federal grant for which the application was submitted are disbursed or encumbered. 86 87 (ii) Funds from a federal grant under a reviewable application may not be disbursed or encumbered before the goals and budget for the federal grant are established by 88 89 a two-thirds vote of the committee, following the committee review under 90 Subsection (3)(d)(i). 91 (e) An exempt application is exempt from the requirements of Subsection (3)(d). 92 (f) The department may use money from a federal grant to pay administrative costs 93 incurred in implementing this Subsection (3). 94 (g) When evaluating a policy or rule that affects a local health department, the 95 committee shall determine: 96 (i) whether the department has the authority to promulgate the policy or rule;

97	(ii) an estimate of the cost a local health department will bear to comply with the
98	policy or rule;
99	(iii) whether there is any funding provided to a local health department to implement
100	the policy or rule; and
101	(iv) whether the policy or rule is still needed.
102	[(h) Before November 1 of each year, the department shall provide a report to the Rules
103	Review and General Oversight Committee regarding the determinations made under
104	Subsection (3)(g).]
105	Section 2. Section 26B-1-232 is amended to read:
106	26B-1-232 . American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison Appointment
107	Duties.
108	(1)(a) "Director" means the director of the Office of American Indian-Alaska Native
109	Health and Family Services appointed under Section 26B-1-231.
110	(b) "Health care" means care, treatment, service, or a procedure to improve, maintain,
111	diagnose, or otherwise affect an individual's physical or mental condition.
112	(c) "Health liaison" means the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison appointed
113	under Subsection (2).
114	(2)(a) The executive director shall appoint an individual as the American Indian-Alaska
115	Native Health Liaison.
116	(b) The health liaison shall serve under the supervision of the director.
117	(3) The health liaison shall:
118	(a) promote and coordinate collaborative efforts between the department and Utah's
119	American Indian-Alaska Native population to improve the availability and
120	accessibility of quality health care impacting Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native
121	populations on and off reservations;
122	(b) interact with the following to improve health disparities for Utah's American
123	Indian-Alaska Native populations:
124	(i) tribal health programs;
125	(ii) local health departments;
126	(iii) state agencies and officials; and
127	(iv) providers of health care in the private sector;
128	(c) facilitate education, training, and technical assistance regarding public health and
129	medical assistance programs to Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native populations;
130	and

131	(d) staff an advisory board by which Utah's tribes may consult with state and local
132	agencies for the development and improvement of public health programs designed
133	to address improved health care for Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native
134	populations on and off the reservation.
135	[(4) The health liaison shall annually report the liaison's activities and accomplishments to
136	the Native American Legislative Liaison Committee created in Section 36-22-1.]
137	Section 3. Section 26B-1-421 is amended to read:
138	26B-1-421 . Compassionate Use Board.
139	(1) The definitions in Section 26B-4-201 apply to this section.
140	(2)(a) The department shall establish a Compassionate Use Board consisting of:
141	(i) seven qualified medical providers that the executive director appoints with the
142	advice and consent of the Senate:
143	(A) who are knowledgeable about the medicinal use of cannabis;
144	(B) who are physicians licensed under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice
145	Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act; and
146	(C) who are board certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties or an
147	American Osteopathic Association Specialty Certifying Board in the specialty
148	of neurology, pain medicine and pain management, medical oncology,
149	psychiatry, infectious disease, internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine,
150	or gastroenterology; and
151	(ii) as a nonvoting member and the chair of the Compassionate Use Board, the
152	executive director or the director's designee.
153	(b) In appointing the seven qualified medical providers described in Subsection (2)(a),
154	the executive director shall ensure that at least two have a board certification in
155	pediatrics.
156	(3)(a) Of the members of the Compassionate Use Board that the executive director first
157	appoints:
158	(i) three shall serve an initial term of two years; and
159	(ii) the remaining members shall serve an initial term of four years.
160	(b) After an initial term described in Subsection (3)(a) expires:
161	(i) each term is four years; and
162	(ii) each board member is eligible for reappointment.
163	(c) A member of the Compassionate Use Board may serve until a successor is appointed.
164	(d) Four members constitute a quorum of the Compassionate Use Board.

165	(4) A member of the Compassionate Use Board may receive:
166	(a) notwithstanding Section 63A-3-106, compensation or benefits for the member's
167	service; and
168	(b) travel expenses in accordance with Section 63A-3-107 and rules made by the
169	Division of Finance in accordance with Section 63A-3-107.
170	(5) The Compassionate Use Board shall:
171	(a) review and recommend for department approval a petition to the board regarding an
172	individual described in Subsection 26B-4-213(2)(a), a minor described in Subsection
173	26B-4-213(2)(c), or an individual who is not otherwise qualified to receive a medical
174	cannabis card to obtain a medical cannabis card for compassionate use, for the
175	standard or a reduced period of validity, if:
176	(i) for an individual who is not otherwise qualified to receive a medical cannabis
177	card, the individual's recommending medical provider is actively treating the
178	individual for an intractable condition that:
179	(A) substantially impairs the individual's quality of life; and
180	(B) has not, in the recommending medical provider's professional opinion,
181	adequately responded to conventional treatments;
182	(ii) the recommending medical provider:
183	(A) recommends that the individual or minor be allowed to use medical cannabis;
184	and
185	(B) provides a letter, relevant treatment history, and notes or copies of progress
186	notes describing relevant treatment history including rationale for considering
187	the use of medical cannabis; and
188	(iii) the Compassionate Use Board determines that:
189	(A) the recommendation of the individual's recommending medical provider is
190	justified; and
191	(B) based on available information, it may be in the best interests of the individual
192	to allow the use of medical cannabis;
193	(b) when a recommending medical provider recommends that an individual described in
194	Subsection 26B-4-213(2)(a)(i)(B) or a minor described in Subsection 26B-4-213(2)(c)
195	be allowed to use a medical cannabis device or medical cannabis to vaporize a
196	medical cannabis treatment, review and approve or deny the use of the medical
197	cannabis device or medical cannabis;
198	(c) unless no petitions are pending:

199	(i) meet to receive or review compassionate use petitions at least quarterly; and
200	(ii) if there are more petitions than the board can receive or review during the board's
201	regular schedule, as often as necessary;
202	(d) except as provided in Subsection (6), complete a review of each petition and
203	recommend to the department approval or denial of the applicant for qualification for
204	a medical cannabis card within 90 days after the day on which the board received the
205	petition; and
206	(e) consult with the department regarding the criteria described in Subsection (6)[; and] .
207	[(f) report, before November 1 of each year, to the Health and Human Services Interim
208	Committee and the Medical Cannabis Governance Structure Working Group:]
209	[(i) the number of compassionate use recommendations the board issued during the
210	past year;]
211	[(ii) the types of conditions for which the board recommended compassionate use; and]
212	[(iii) the number of applications that are not completed.]
213	(6) The department shall make rules, in consultation with the Compassionate Use Board
214	and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to
215	establish a process and criteria for a petition to the board to automatically qualify for
216	expedited final review and approval or denial by the department in cases where, in the
217	determination of the department and the board:
218	(a) time is of the essence;
219	(b) engaging the full review process would be unreasonable in light of the petitioner's
220	physical condition; and
221	(c) sufficient factors are present regarding the petitioner's safety.
222	(7)(a)(i) The department shall review:
223	(A) any compassionate use for which the Compassionate Use Board recommends
224	approval under Subsection (5)(d) to determine whether the board properly
225	exercised the board's discretion under this section; and
226	(B) any expedited petitions the department receives under the process described in
227	Subsection (6).
228	(ii) If the department determines that the Compassionate Use Board properly
229	exercised the board's discretion in recommending approval under Subsection (5)(d)
230	or that the expedited petition merits approval based on the criteria established in
231	accordance with Subsection (6), the department shall:
232	(A) issue the relevant medical cannabis card; and

233	(B) provide for the renewal of the medical cannabis card in accordance with the
234	recommendation of the recommending medical provider described in
235	Subsection (5)(a).
236	(b) If the Compassionate Use Board recommends denial under Subsection (5)(d), the
237	individual seeking to obtain a medical cannabis card may petition the department to
238	review the board's decision.
239	(c) In reviewing the Compassionate Use Board's recommendation for approval or denial
240	under Subsection (5)(d) in accordance with this Subsection (7), the department shall
241	presume the board properly exercised the board's discretion unless the department
242	determines that the board's recommendation was arbitrary or capricious.
243	(8) Any individually identifiable health information contained in a petition that the
244	Compassionate Use Board or department receives under this section is a protected
245	record in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and
246	Management Act.
247	(9) The Compassionate Use Board shall annually report the board's activity to:
248	(a) the Cannabis Research Review Board; and
249	(b) the advisory board.
250	Section 4. Section 26B-1-427 is amended to read:
251	26B-1-427 . Alcohol Abuse Tracking Committee Tracking effects of abuse of
252	alcoholic products.
253	(1) There is created a committee within the department known as the Alcohol Abuse
254	Tracking Committee that consists of:
255	(a) the executive director or the executive director's designee;
256	(b) the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee
257	(c) the director of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services or that director's
258	designee;
259	(d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or that executive
260	director's designee;
261	(e) the chair of the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Committee or the
262	chair's designee;
263	(f) the state court administrator or the state court administrator's designee; and
264	(g) the director of the Division of Technology Services or that director's designee.
265	(2) The executive director or the executive director's designee shall chair the committee.
266	(3)(a) Four members of the committee constitute a quorum.

267		(b) A vote of the majority of the committee members present when a quorum is present
268		is an action of the committee.
269	(4)	The committee shall meet at the call of the chair[, except that the chair shall call a
270		meeting at least twice a year:] .
271		[(a) with one meeting held each year to develop the report required under Subsection
272		(7); and]
273		[(b) with one meeting held to review and finalize the report before the report is issued.]
274	(5)	The committee may adopt additional procedures or requirements for:
275		(a) voting, when there is a tie of the committee members;
276		(b) how meetings are to be called; and
277		(c) the frequency of meetings.
278	(6)	The committee shall establish a process to collect for each calendar year the following
279		information:
280		(a) the number of individuals statewide who are convicted of, plead guilty to, plead no
281		contest to, plead guilty in a similar manner to, or resolve by diversion or its
282		equivalent to a violation related to underage drinking of alcohol;
283		(b) the number of individuals statewide who are convicted of, plead guilty to, plead no
284		contest to, plead guilty in a similar manner to, or resolve by diversion or its
285		equivalent to a violation related to driving under the influence of alcohol;
286		(c) the number of violations statewide of Title 32B, Alcoholic Beverage Control Act,
287		related to over-serving or over-consumption of an alcoholic product;
288		(d) the cost of social services provided by the state related to abuse of alcohol, including
289		services provided by the Division of Child and Family Services;
290		(e) the location where the alcoholic products that result in the violations or costs
291		described in Subsections (6)(a) through (d) are obtained; and
292		(f) any information the committee determines can be collected and relates to the abuse of
293		alcoholic products.
294	[(7)	The committee shall:]
295		[(a) report the information collected under Subsection (6) annually to the governor, the
296		Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee, and the State
297		Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice by no later than the July 1 immediately
298		following the calendar year for which the information is collected; and]
299		[(b) provide all data collected before January 1, 2024, under Subsection (6) to the State
300		Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice 1

301	Section 5. Section 26B-2-309 is amended to read:
302	26B-2-309 . Assisted living facility transfers.
303	(1) After the ombudsman receives a notice described in Subsection 26B-2-237(2)(b), the
304	ombudsman shall:
305	(a) review the notice; and
306	(b) contact the resident or the resident's responsible person to conduct a voluntary
307	interview.
308	(2) The voluntary interview described in Subsection (1)(b) shall:
309	(a) provide the resident with information about the services available through the
310	ombudsman;
311	(b) confirm the details in the notice described in Subsection 26B-2-237(2)(b), including:
312	(i) the name of the resident;
313	(ii) the reason for the transfer or discharge;
314	(iii) the date of the transfer or discharge; and
315	(iv) a description of the resident's next living arrangement; and
316	(c) provide the resident an opportunity to discuss any concerns or complaints the
317	resident may have regarding:
318	(i) the resident's treatment at the assisted living facility; and
319	(ii) whether the assisted living facility treated the resident fairly when the assisted
320	living facility transferred or discharged the resident.
321	[(3) On or before November 1 of each year, the ombudsman shall provide a report to the
322	Health and Human Services Interim Committee regarding:
323	[(a) the reasons why assisted living facilities are transferring residents;]
324	[(b) where residents are going upon transfer or discharge; and]
325	[(c) the type and prevalence of complaints that the ombudsman receives regarding
326	assisted living facilities, including complaints about the process or reasons for a
327	transfer or discharge.]
328	Section 6. Section 26B-3-107 is amended to read:
329	26B-3-107 . Dental benefits.
330	(1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (8), the division may establish a competitive bid
331	process to bid out Medicaid dental benefits under this chapter.
332	(b) The division may bid out the Medicaid dental benefits separately from other program
333	benefits.
334	(2) The division shall use the following criteria to evaluate dental bids:

335	(a) ability to manage dental expenses;
336	(b) proven ability to handle dental insurance;
337	(c) efficiency of claim paying procedures;
338	(d) provider contracting, discounts, and adequacy of network; and
339	(e) other criteria established by the department.
340	(3) The division shall request bids for the program's benefits at least once every five years.
341	(4) The division's contract with dental plans for the program's benefits shall include risk
342	sharing provisions in which the dental plan must accept 100% of the risk for any
343	difference between the division's premium payments per client and actual dental
344	expenditures.
345	(5) The division may not award contracts to:
346	(a) more than three responsive bidders under this section; or
347	(b) an insurer that does not have a current license in the state.
348	(6)(a) The division may cancel the request for proposals if:
349	(i) there are no responsive bidders; or
350	(ii) the division determines that accepting the bids would increase the program's costs.
351	(b) If the division cancels a request for proposal or a contract that results from a request
352	for proposal described in Subsection (6)(a), the division shall report to the Health and
353	Human Services Interim Committee regarding the reasons for the decision.
354	(7) Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, shall apply to this section.
355	(8)(a) The division may:
356	(i) establish a dental health care delivery system and payment reform pilot program
357	for Medicaid dental benefits to increase access to cost effective and quality dental
358	health care by increasing the number of dentists available for Medicaid dental
359	services; and
360	(ii) target specific Medicaid populations or geographic areas in the state.
361	(b) The pilot program shall establish compensation models for dentists and dental
362	hygienists that:
363	(i) increase access to quality, cost effective dental care; and
364	(ii) use funds from the Division of Family Health [and Preparedness-]that are
365	available to reimburse dentists for educational loans in exchange for the dentist
366	agreeing to serve Medicaid and under-served populations.
367	(c) The division may amend the state plan and apply to the Secretary of the United
368	States Department of Health and Human Services for waivers or pilot programs if

369	necessary to establish the new dental care delivery and payment reform model.
370	(d) The division shall evaluate the pilot program's effect on the cost of dental care and
371	access to dental care for the targeted Medicaid populations.
372	(9)(a) As used in this Subsection (9), "dental hygienist" means an individual who is
373	licensed as a dental hygienist under Section 58-69-301.
374	(b) The department shall reimburse a dental hygienist for dental services performed in a
375	public health setting and in accordance with Subsection (9)(c) beginning on the
376	earlier of:
377	(i) January 1, 2023; or
378	(ii) 30 days after the date on which the replacement of the department's Medicaid
379	Management Information System software is complete.
380	(c) The department shall reimburse a dental hygienist directly for a service provided
381	through the Medicaid program if:
382	(i) the dental hygienist requests to be reimbursed directly; and
383	(ii) the dental hygienist provides the service within the scope of practice described in
384	Section 58-69-801.
385	[(d) Before November 30 of each year in which the department reimburses dental
386	hygienists in accordance with Subsection (9)(c), the department shall report to the
387	Health and Human Services Interim Committee, for the previous fiscal year:]
388	[(i) the number and geographic distribution of dental hygienists who requested to be
389	reimbursed directly;]
390	[(ii) the total number of Medicaid enrollees who were served by a dental hygienist
391	who were reimbursed under this Subsection (9);]
392	[(iii) the total amount reimbursed directly to dental hygienists under this Subsection
393	(9);]
394	[(iv) the specific services and billing codes that are reimbursed under this Subsection
395	(9); and]
396	[(v) the aggregate amount reimbursed for each service and billing code described in
397	Subsection (9)(d)(iv).]
398	[(e)] (d)(i) Except as provided in this Subsection (9), nothing in this Subsection (9)
399	shall be interpreted as expanding or otherwise altering the limitations and scope of
400	practice for a dental hygienist.
401	(ii) A dental hygienist may only directly bill and receive compensation for billing
402	codes that fall within the scope of practice of a dental hygienist.

403	Section 7. Section 26B-5-102 is amended to read:
404	26B-5-102. Division of Integrated Healthcare Office of Substance Use and
405	Mental Health Creation Responsibilities.
406	(1)(a) The Division of Integrated Healthcare shall exercise responsibility over the
407	policymaking functions, regulatory and enforcement powers, rights, duties, and
408	responsibilities outlined in state law that were previously vested in the Division of
409	Substance Abuse and Mental Health within the department, under the administration
410	and general supervision of the executive director.
411	(b) The division is the substance abuse authority and the mental health authority for this
412	state.
413	(c) There is created the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health within the division.
414	(d) The office shall exercise the responsibilities, powers, rights, duties, and
415	responsibilities assigned to the office by the executive director.
416	(2) The division shall:
417	(a)(i) educate the general public regarding the nature and consequences of substance
418	use by promoting school and community-based prevention programs;
419	(ii) render support and assistance to public schools through approved school-based
420	substance abuse education programs aimed at prevention of substance use;
421	(iii) promote or establish programs for the prevention of substance use within the
422	community setting through community-based prevention programs;
423	(iv) cooperate with and assist treatment centers, recovery residences, and other
424	organizations that provide services to individuals recovering from a substance use
425	disorder, by identifying and disseminating information about effective practices
426	and programs;
427	(v) promote integrated programs that address an individual's substance use, mental
428	health, and physical health;
429	(vi) establish and promote an evidence-based continuum of screening, assessment,
430	prevention, treatment, and recovery support services in the community for
431	individuals with a substance use disorder or mental illness;
432	(vii) evaluate the effectiveness of programs described in this Subsection (2);
433	(viii) consider the impact of the programs described in this Subsection (2) on:
434	(A) emergency department utilization;
435	(B) jail and prison populations;
436	(C) the homeless population; and

437	(D) the child welfare system; and
438	(ix) promote or establish programs for education and certification of instructors to
439	educate individuals convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs or
440	driving with any measurable controlled substance in the body;
441	(b)(i) collect and disseminate information pertaining to mental health;
442	(ii) provide direction over the state hospital including approval of the state hospital's
443	budget, administrative policy, and coordination of services with local service
444	plans;
445	(iii) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
446	Rulemaking Act, to educate families concerning mental illness and promote
447	family involvement, when appropriate, and with patient consent, in the treatment
448	program of a family member;
449	(iv) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
450	Rulemaking Act, to direct that an individual receiving services through a local
451	mental health authority or the Utah State Hospital be informed about and, if
452	desired by the individual, provided assistance in the completion of a declaration
453	for mental health treatment in accordance with Section 26B-5-313; and
454	(v) to the extent authorized and in accordance with statute, make rules in accordance
455	with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that:
456	(A) create a certification for targeted case management;
457	(B) establish training and certification requirements;
458	(C) specify the types of services each certificate holder is qualified to provide;
459	(D) specify the type of supervision under which a certificate holder is required to
460	operate; and
461	(E) specify continuing education and other requirements for maintaining or
462	renewing certification;
463	(c)(i) consult and coordinate with local substance abuse authorities and local mental
464	health authorities regarding programs and services;
465	(ii) provide consultation and other assistance to public and private agencies and
466	groups working on substance use and mental health issues;
467	(iii) promote and establish cooperative relationships with courts, hospitals, clinics,
468	medical and social agencies, public health authorities, law enforcement agencies,
469	education and research organizations, and other related groups;
470	(iv) promote or conduct research on substance use and mental health issues, and

471	submit to the governor and the Legislature recommendations for changes in policy
472	and legislation;
473	(v) receive, distribute, and provide direction over public funds for substance use and
474	mental health services;
475	(vi) monitor and evaluate programs provided by local substance abuse authorities and
476	local mental health authorities;
477	(vii) examine expenditures of local, state, and federal funds;
478	(viii) monitor the expenditure of public funds by:
479	(A) local substance abuse authorities;
480	(B) local mental health authorities; and
481	(C) in counties where they exist, a private contract provider that has an annual or
482	otherwise ongoing contract to provide comprehensive substance abuse or
483	mental health programs or services for the local substance abuse authority or
484	local mental health authority;
485	(ix) contract with local substance abuse authorities and local mental health authorities
486	to provide a comprehensive continuum of services that include community-based
487	services for individuals involved in the criminal justice system, in accordance with
488	division policy, contract provisions, and the local plan;
489	(x) contract with private and public entities for special statewide or nonclinical
490	services, or services for individuals involved in the criminal justice system,
491	according to division rules;
492	(xi) review and approve each local substance abuse authority's plan and each local
493	mental health authority's plan in order to ensure:
494	(A) a statewide comprehensive continuum of substance use services;
495	(B) a statewide comprehensive continuum of mental health services;
496	(C) services result in improved overall health and functioning;
497	(D) a statewide comprehensive continuum of community-based services designed
498	to reduce criminal risk factors for individuals who are determined to have
499	substance use or mental illness conditions or both, and who are involved in the
500	criminal justice system;
501	(E) compliance, where appropriate, with the certification requirements in
502	Subsection (2)(h); and
503	(F) appropriate expenditure of public funds;
504	(xii) review and make recommendations regarding each local substance abuse

505	authority's contract with the local substance abuse authority's provider of
506	substance use programs and services and each local mental health authority's
507	contract with the local mental health authority's provider of mental health
508	programs and services to ensure compliance with state and federal law and policy;
509	(xiii) monitor and ensure compliance with division rules and contract requirements;
510	and
511	(xiv) withhold funds from local substance abuse authorities, local mental health
512	authorities, and public and private providers for contract noncompliance, failure to
513	comply with division directives regarding the use of public funds, or for misuse of
514	public funds or money;
515	(d) ensure that the requirements of this part are met and applied uniformly by local
516	substance abuse authorities and local mental health authorities across the state;
517	(e) require each local substance abuse authority and each local mental health authority,
518	in accordance with Subsections 17-43-201(5)(b) and 17-43-301(6)(a)(ii), to submit a
519	plan to the division on or before May 15 of each year;
520	(f) conduct an annual program audit and review of each local substance abuse authority
521	and each local substance abuse authority's contract provider, and each local mental
522	health authority and each local mental health authority's contract provider, including:
523	(i) a review and determination regarding whether:
524	(A) public funds allocated to the local substance abuse authority or the local
525	mental health authorities are consistent with services rendered by the authority
526	or the authority's contract provider, and with outcomes reported by the
527	authority's contract provider; and
528	(B) each local substance abuse authority and each local mental health authority is
529	exercising sufficient oversight and control over public funds allocated for
530	substance use disorder and mental health programs and services; and
531	(ii) items determined by the division to be necessary and appropriate;
532	(g) define "prevention" by rule as required under Title 32B, Chapter 2, Part 4, Alcoholic
533	Beverage and Substance Abuse Enforcement and Treatment Restricted Account Act;
534	(h)(i) train and certify an adult as a peer support specialist, qualified to provide peer
535	supports services to an individual with:
536	(A) a substance use disorder;
537	(B) a mental health disorder; or
538	(C) a substance use disorder and a mental health disorder;

539	(ii) certify a person to carry out, as needed, the division's duty to train and certify an
540	adult as a peer support specialist;
541	(iii) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
542	Rulemaking Act, that:
543	(A) establish training and certification requirements for a peer support specialist;
544	(B) specify the types of services a peer support specialist is qualified to provide;
545	(C) specify the type of supervision under which a peer support specialist is
546	required to operate; and
547	(D) specify continuing education and other requirements for maintaining or
548	renewing certification as a peer support specialist; and
549	(iv) make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
550	Rulemaking Act, that:
551	(A) establish the requirements for a person to be certified to carry out, as needed,
552	the division's duty to train and certify an adult as a peer support specialist; and
553	(B) specify how the division shall provide oversight of a person certified to train
554	and certify a peer support specialist;
555	(i) collaborate with the State Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice to analyze
556	and provide recommendations to the Legislature regarding:
557	(i) pretrial services and the resources needed to reduce recidivism;
558	(ii) county jail and county behavioral health early-assessment resources needed for an
559	individual convicted of a class A or class B misdemeanor; and
560	(iii) the replacement of federal dollars associated with drug interdiction law
561	enforcement task forces that are reduced;
562	(j) establish performance goals and outcome measurements for a mental health or
563	substance use treatment program that is licensed under Chapter 2, Part 1, Human
564	Services Programs and Facilities, and contracts with the department, including goals
565	and measurements related to employment and reducing recidivism of individuals
566	receiving mental health or substance use treatment who are involved with the
567	criminal justice system;
568	[(k) annually, on or before November 30, submit a written report to the Judiciary Interim
569	Committee, the Health and Human Services Interim Committee, and the Law
570	Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee, that includes:]
571	[(i) a description of the performance goals and outcome measurements described in
572	Subsection (2)(j); and]

573	(ii) information on the effectiveness of the goals and measurements in ensuring
574	appropriate and adequate mental health or substance use treatment is provided in a
575	treatment program described in Subsection (2)(j);]
576	[(1)] (k) collaborate with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of
577	Corrections, the Department of Workforce Services, and the Board of Pardons and
578	Parole to collect data on recidivism in accordance with the metrics and requirements
579	described in Section 63M-7-102;
580	[(m)] (1) at the division's discretion, use the data described in Subsection $[(2)(1)]$ (2)(k) to
581	make decisions regarding the use of funds allocated to the division to provide
582	treatment;
583	[(n) annually, on or before August 31, submit the data collected under Subsection (2)(l)
584	and any recommendations to improve the data collection to the State Commission on
585	Criminal and Juvenile Justice to be included in the report described in Subsection
586	63M-7-204(1)(x);]
587	[(o)] (m) publish the following on the division's website:
588	(i) the performance goals and outcome measurements described in Subsection (2)(j);
589	and
590	(ii) a description of the services provided and the contact information for the mental
591	health and substance use treatment programs described in Subsection (2)(j) and
592	residential, vocational and life skills programs, as defined in Section 13-53-102;
593	and
594	[(p)] <u>(n)</u> consult and coordinate with the Division of Child and Family Services to
595	develop and manage the operation of a program designed to reduce substance use
596	during pregnancy and by parents of a newborn child that includes:
597	(i) providing education and resources to health care providers and individuals in the
598	state regarding prevention of substance use during pregnancy;
599	(ii) providing training to health care providers in the state regarding screening of a
600	pregnant woman or pregnant minor to identify a substance use disorder; and
601	(iii) providing referrals to pregnant women, pregnant minors, or parents of a newborn
602	child in need of substance use treatment services to a facility that has the capacity
603	to provide the treatment services.
604	(3) In addition to the responsibilities described in Subsection (2), the division shall, within
605	funds appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose, implement and manage the
606	operation of a firearm safety and suicide prevention program, in consultation with the

507	Bureau of Criminal Identification created in Section 53-10-201, including:
508	(a) coordinating with local mental health and substance abuse authorities, a nonprofit
509	behavioral health advocacy group, and a representative from a Utah-based nonprofit
510	organization with expertise in the field of firearm use and safety that represents
511	firearm owners, to:
512	(i) produce and periodically review and update a firearm safety brochure and other
513	educational materials with information about the safe handling and use of firearms
514	that includes:
515	(A) information on safe handling, storage, and use of firearms in a home
516	environment;
517	(B) information about at-risk individuals and individuals who are legally
518	prohibited from possessing firearms;
519	(C) information about suicide prevention awareness; and
520	(D) information about the availability of firearm safety packets;
521	(ii) procure cable-style gun locks for distribution under this section;
522	(iii) produce a firearm safety packet that includes the firearm safety brochure and the
523	cable-style gun lock described in this Subsection (3); and
524	(iv) create a suicide prevention education course that:
525	(A) provides information for distribution regarding firearm safety education;
626	(B) incorporates current information on how to recognize suicidal behaviors and
527	identify individuals who may be suicidal; and
528	(C) provides information regarding crisis intervention resources;
529	(b) distributing, free of charge, the firearm safety packet to the following persons, who
530	shall make the firearm safety packet available free of charge:
531	(i) health care providers, including emergency rooms;
532	(ii) mobile crisis outreach teams;
533	(iii) mental health practitioners;
534	(iv) other public health suicide prevention organizations;
535	(v) entities that teach firearm safety courses;
536	(vi) school districts for use in the seminar, described in Section 53G-9-702, for
537	parents of students in the school district; and
538	(vii) firearm dealers to be distributed in accordance with Section 76-10-526;
539	(c) creating and administering a rebate program that includes a rebate that offers
540	between \$10 and \$200 off the purchase price of a firearm safe from a participating

641 firearms dealer or a person engaged in the business of selling firearm safes in Utah, 642 by a Utah resident; and 643 (d) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, 644 making rules that establish procedures for: 645 (i) producing and distributing the suicide prevention education course and the firearm 646 safety brochures and packets; 647 (ii) procuring the cable-style gun locks for distribution; and 648 (iii) administering the rebate program. 649 (4)(a) The division may refuse to contract with and may pursue legal remedies against 650 any local substance abuse authority or local mental health authority that fails, or has 651 failed, to expend public funds in accordance with state law, division policy, contract 652 provisions, or directives issued in accordance with state law. 653 (b) The division may withhold funds from a local substance abuse authority or local 654 mental health authority if the authority's contract provider of substance use or mental 655 health programs or services fails to comply with state and federal law or policy. 656 (5)(a) Before reissuing or renewing a contract with any local substance abuse authority 657 or local mental health authority, the division shall review and determine whether the 658 local substance abuse authority or local mental health authority is complying with the 659 oversight and management responsibilities described in Sections 17-43-201, 660 17-43-203, 17-43-303, and 17-43-309. 661 (b) Nothing in this Subsection (5) may be used as a defense to the responsibility and 662 liability described in Section 17-43-303 and to the responsibility and liability 663 described in Section 17-43-203. 664 (6) In carrying out the division's duties and responsibilities, the division may not duplicate 665 treatment or educational facilities that exist in other divisions or departments of the state, 666 but shall work in conjunction with those divisions and departments in rendering the 667 treatment or educational services that those divisions and departments are competent and 668 able to provide. 669 (7) The division may accept in the name of and on behalf of the state donations, gifts, 670 devises, or bequests of real or personal property or services to be used as specified by 671 the donor. 672 (8) The division shall annually review with each local substance abuse authority and each 673 local mental health authority the authority's statutory and contract responsibilities 674 regarding:

675	(a) use of public funds;
676	(b) oversight of public funds; and
677	(c) governance of substance use disorder and mental health programs and services.
678	(9) The Legislature may refuse to appropriate funds to the division upon the division's
679	failure to comply with the provisions of this part.
680	(10) If a local substance abuse authority contacts the division under Subsection 17-43-201
681	(10) for assistance in providing treatment services to a pregnant woman or pregnant
682	minor, the division shall:
683	(a) refer the pregnant woman or pregnant minor to a treatment facility that has the
684	capacity to provide the treatment services; or
685	(b) otherwise ensure that treatment services are made available to the pregnant woman
686	or pregnant minor.
687	(11) The division shall employ a school-based mental health specialist to be housed at the
688	State Board of Education who shall work with the State Board of Education to:
689	(a) provide coordination between a local education agency and local mental health
690	authority;
691	(b) recommend evidence-based and evidence informed mental health screenings and
692	intervention assessments for a local education agency; and
693	(c) coordinate with the local community, including local departments of health, to
694	enhance and expand mental health related resources for a local education agency.
695	Section 8. Section 26B-5-607 is amended to read:
696	26B-5-607 . Grants for development of an ACT team.
697	(1) The division shall award grants for the development of one or more ACT teams to
698	provide assertive community treatment to individuals in the state.
699	(2) The division shall prioritize the award of a grant described in Subsection (1) to entities,
700	based on:
701	(a) the number of individuals the proposed ACT team will serve;
702	(b) the ability of the entity to provide housing to individuals served under the program;
703	(c) the ability of the entity to provide evidence of probable future program sustainability;
704	and
705	(d) the percentage of matching funds the entity will provide to develop the proposed
706	ACT team.
707	(3)(a) An entity does not need to have resources already in place to be awarded a grant
708	described in Subsection (1).

709	(b) An entity may submit an application for and be awarded more than one grant
710	pursuant to the prioritization described in Subsection (2).
711	(c) An ACT team developed using a grant awarded under this section shall:
712	(i) coordinate with local homeless councils and criminal justice coordinating councils
713	to align the ACT team's services with existing services and strategic plans; and
714	(ii) work with an individual served under the program to secure and maintain housing
715	and provide wraparound services, including:
716	(A) clinical support;
717	(B) case management;
718	(C) peer support;
719	(D) employment support; and
720 721	(E) other services identified in the long-term, statewide ACT team plan described in Section 26B-5-606.
722	(4) The division shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
723	Administrative Rulemaking Act, for the application and award of the grants described in
724	Subsection (1).
725	[(5) Before June 30, 2024, and before June 30 of each subsequent fiscal year in which a
726	grant is awarded under Subsection (1), the division shall report to the Health and Human
727	Services Interim Committee regarding:
728	[(a) data gathered in relation to each awarded grant;]
729	[(b) knowledge gained relating to the provision of medical and mental health services by
730	ACT teams;]
731	[(c) recommendations for the future use of ACT teams to provide medical and mental
732	health services;]
733	[(d) Medicaid reimbursement for services provided by ACT teams; and]
734	[(e) aggregated data about the patients who have received services from an ACT team,
735	including:]
736	[(i) the number of ACT team patients who have a severe mental illness;]
737	[(ii) the number of ACT team patients who have a co-occurring substance use
738	disorder;]
739	[(iii) the number of ACT team patients who are experiencing homelessness or facing
740	housing insecurity; and]
741	[(iv) the number of ACT team patients who, after the most recent report was made,
742	have experienced:]

743	[(A) an acute psychiatric hospitalization;]
744	[(B) an arrest, incarceration, probation, or parole; or]
745	[(C) a transition from homelessness or housing insecurity to supported housing or
746	housing.]
747	Section 9. Section 63A-17-806 is amended to read:
748	63A-17-806 . Definitions Infant at Work Pilot Program Administration.
749	(1) As used in this section:
750	(a) "Eligible employee" means an employee who has been employed by the Department
751	of Health and Human Services for a minimum of:
752	(i) 12 consecutive months; and
753	(ii) 1,250 hours, excluding paid time off during the 12-month period immediately
754	preceding the day on which the employee applies for participation in the program.
755	(b) "Infant" means a baby that is at least six weeks of age and no more than six months
756	of age.
757	(c) "Parent" means:
758	(i) a biological or adoptive parent of an infant; or
759	(ii) an individual who has an infant placed in the individual's foster care by the
760	Division of Child and Family Services.
761	(d) "Program" means the Infant at Work Pilot Program established in this section.
762	(2) There is created the Infant at Work Pilot Program for eligible employees.
763	(3) The program shall:
764	(a) allow an eligible employee to bring the eligible employee's infant to work subject to
765	the provisions of this section;
766	(b) be administered by the division; and
767	(c) be implemented for a minimum of one year.
768	(4) The division shall establish an application process for eligible employees of the
769	Department of Health and Human Services to apply to the program that includes:
770	(a) a process for evaluating whether an eligible employee's work environment is
771	appropriate for an infant;
772	(b) guidelines for infant health and safety; and
773	(c) guidelines regarding an eligible employee's initial and ongoing participation in the
774	program.
775	(5) If the division approves the eligible employee for participation in the program, the

eligible employee shall have the sole responsibility for the care and safety of the infant

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at the workplace.

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(6) The division may not require the Department of Health and Human Services to designate or set aside space for an eligible employee's infant other than the eligible employee's existing work space.

- (7) The division, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, shall make rules that the department determines necessary to establish the program in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
- [(8) On or before June 30, 2025, the division, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, shall submit a written report to the Business and Labor Interim Committee that describes the efficacy of the program, including any recommendations for additional legislative action.]

Section 10. Section **63M-7-204** is amended to read:

63M-7-204. Duties of commission.

- (1) The commission shall:
 - (a) promote the commission's purposes as enumerated in Section 63M-7-201;
 - (b) promote the communication and coordination of all criminal and juvenile justice agencies;
 - (c) study, evaluate, and report on the status of crime in the state and on the effectiveness of criminal justice policies, procedures, and programs that are directed toward the reduction of crime in the state;
 - (d) study, evaluate, and report on programs initiated by state and local agencies to address reducing recidivism, including changes in penalties and sentencing guidelines intended to reduce recidivism, costs savings associated with the reduction in the number of inmates, and evaluation of expenses and resources needed to meet goals regarding the use of treatment as an alternative to incarceration, as resources allow;
 - (e) study, evaluate, and report on policies, procedures, and programs of other jurisdictions which have effectively reduced crime;
 - (f) identify and promote the implementation of specific policies and programs the commission determines will significantly reduce crime in Utah;
 - (g) provide analysis and recommendations on all criminal and juvenile justice legislation, state budget, and facility requests, including program and fiscal impact on all components of the criminal and juvenile justice system;
 - (h) provide analysis, accountability, recommendations, and supervision for state and

811	federal criminal justice grant money;
812	(i) provide public information on the criminal and juvenile justice system and give
813	technical assistance to agencies or local units of government on methods to promote
814	public awareness;
815	(j) promote research and program evaluation as an integral part of the criminal and
816	juvenile justice system;
817	(k) provide a comprehensive criminal justice plan annually;
818	(l) review agency forecasts regarding future demands on the criminal and juvenile
819	justice systems, including specific projections for secure bed space;
820	(m) promote the development of criminal and juvenile justice information systems that
821	are consistent with common standards for data storage and are capable of
822	appropriately sharing information with other criminal justice information systems by:
823	(i) developing and maintaining common data standards for use by all state criminal
824	justice agencies;
825	(ii) annually performing audits of criminal history record information maintained by
826	state criminal justice agencies to assess their accuracy, completeness, and
827	adherence to standards;
828	(iii) defining and developing state and local programs and projects associated with
829	the improvement of information management for law enforcement and the
830	administration of justice; and
831	(iv) establishing general policies concerning criminal and juvenile justice information
832	systems and making rules as necessary to carry out the duties under Subsection
833	(1)(k) and this Subsection (1)(m);
834	(n) allocate and administer grants, from money made available, for approved education
835	programs to help prevent the sexual exploitation of children;
836	(o) allocate and administer grants for law enforcement operations and programs related
837	to reducing illegal drug activity and related criminal activity;
838	(p) request, receive, and evaluate data and recommendations collected and reported by
839	agencies and contractors related to policies recommended by the commission
840	regarding recidivism reduction, including the data described in Section 13-53-111
841	and Subsection [26B-5-102(2)(1)] 26B-5-102(2)(k);
842	(q) establish and administer a performance incentive grant program that allocates funds
843	appropriated by the Legislature to programs and practices implemented by counties
844	that reduce recidivism and reduce the number of offenders per capita who are

845	incarcerated;
846	(r) oversee or designate an entity to oversee the implementation of juvenile justice
847	reforms;
848	(s) make rules and administer the juvenile holding room standards and juvenile jail
849	standards to align with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act
850	requirements pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 5633;
851	(t) allocate and administer grants, from money made available, for pilot qualifying
852	education programs;
853	(u) request, receive, and evaluate the aggregate data collected from prosecutorial
854	agencies and the Administrative Office of the Courts, in accordance with Sections
855	63M-7-216 and 78A-2-109.5;
856	(v) report annually to the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee on
857	the progress made on each of the following goals of the Justice Reinvestment
858	Initiative:
859	(i) ensuring oversight and accountability;
860	(ii) supporting local corrections systems;
861	(iii) improving and expanding reentry and treatment services; and
862	(iv) strengthening probation and parole supervision;
863	(w) compile a report of findings based on the data and recommendations provided under
864	Section 13-53-111 [and Subsection 26B-5-102(2)(n) that:]
865	[(i)] that separates the data provided under Section 13-53-111 by each residential,
866	vocational and life skills program[; and];
867	[(ii) separates the data provided under Subsection 26B-5-102(2)(n) by each mental
868	health or substance use treatment program;]
869	(x) publish the report described in Subsection (1)(w) on the commission's website and
870	annually provide the report to the Judiciary Interim Committee, the Health and
871	Human Services Interim Committee, the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice
872	Interim Committee, and the related appropriations subcommittees;
873	(y) receive, compile, and publish on the commission's website the data provided under:
874	(i) Section 53-25-202;
875	(ii) Section 53-25-301; and
876	(iii) Section 53-25-401;
877	(z) review, research, advise, and make recommendations to the three branches of
878	government regarding evidence-based sex offense management policies and

879	practices, including supervision standards, treatment standards, and the sex offender
880	registry;
881	(aa) receive and evaluate a referral from the Department of Public Safety received under
882	Section 53-21-104.3 involving a denial of mental health resources to an eligible
883	individual, including, if appropriate in the commission's discretion, deny the relevant
884	entity from receiving any grant of state funds under Section 63M-7-218 for a
885	specified period of time; and
886	(bb) accept public comment.
887	(2)(a) The commission may designate an entity to perform the duties described in this
888	part.
889	(b) If the commission designates an entity under Subsection (2)(a), the commission shall
890	ensure that the membership of the designated entity includes representation from
891	relevant stakeholder groups from the parts of the justice system implicated in the
892	policy area.
893	(3) [in] In fulfilling the commission's duties under Subsection (1), the commission may seek
894	input and request assistance from groups with knowledge and expertise in criminal
895	justice, including other boards and commissions affiliated or housed within the
896	commission.
897	Section 11. Effective Date.
898	This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.