1	MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS AMENDMENTS	
	2021 GENERAL SESSION	
3	STATE OF UTAH	
1	Chief Sponsor: Todd D. Weiler	
5	House Sponsor: Steve Eliason	
6 7	LONG TITLE	
8	General Description:	
)	This bill addresses mental and behavioral health services in the state.	
)	Highlighted Provisions:	
	This bill:	
	creates, modifies, and repeals definitions;	
	 requires the base budget to include certain appropriations to the Department of 	
	Health and the Department of Human Services for insurance plans that contract	
;	with the state's Medicaid program for behavioral health services;	
Ó	requires a health benefit plan to:	
,	 provide coverage for treatment of a mental health condition through 	
3	telemedicine services if certain conditions are met; and	
)	• reimburse for the treatment at a certain rate;	
	 allows a provider to use any synchronous audiovisual technology that is compliant 	
	with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 for	
2	certain treatment through telemedicine services;	
3	 prohibits the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing from refusing to 	
4	issue, or taking disciplinary action against, the occupational license of certain health	
5	care providers based solely on the provider seeking or participating in mental health	
5	or substance abuse treatment; and	
7	 makes technical and conforming changes. 	
3	Money Appropriated in this Bill:	
9	This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2022:	

30	• to Department of Health Medicaid Services, as an ongoing appropriation:
31	• From Federal Funds, \$3,780,000;
32	 From Expendable Receipts, \$340,000; and
33	 From Medicaid Expansion Fund, \$36,000;
34	▶ to Department of Health Medicaid Services, as a one-time appropriation:
35	• From Federal Funds, One-time, (\$2,950,000);
36	• From Expendable Receipts, One-time, (\$260,000); and
37	• From Medicaid Expansion Fund, One-time, (\$26,000);
38	► to Department of Human Services Division of Substance Abuse and Mental
39	Health, as an ongoing appropriation:
40	 From General Fund, \$1,369,100; and
41	► to Department of Human Services Division of Substance Abuse and Mental
42	Health, as a one-time appropriation:
43	• From General Fund, One-time, (\$1,066,500).
44	Other Special Clauses:
45	This bill provides a special effective date.
46	This bill provides a coordination clause.
47	Utah Code Sections Affected:
48	AMENDS:
49	26-18-405.5, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 288
50	31A-22-649.5, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 119
51	58-1-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 289
52	58-31b-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 136
53	58-60-108, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1994, Chapter 32
54	58-61-401, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1994, Chapter 32
55	58-67-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 214
56	58-68-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 214
57	58-70a-401 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1997, Chapter 229

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58	ENACTS:	
59	58-81-105, Utah Code Annotated 1953	
60	Utah Code Sections Affected by Coordination Clause:	
61	31A-22-649.5, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 119	
6263	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:	
64	Section 1. Section 26-18-405.5 is amended to read:	
65	26-18-405.5. Base budget appropriations for Medicaid accountable care	
66	organizations and mental health plans.	
67	(1) [For purposes of] As used in this section:	
68	(a) ["ACOs" means accountable care organizations.] "ACO" means an accountable	
69	care organization that contracts with the state's Medicaid program for:	
70	(i) physical health services; or	
71	(ii) integrated physical and behavioral health services.	
72	(b) "Base budget" means the same as that term is defined in legislative rule.	
73	[(c) "Current fiscal year PMPM" means per-member-per-month funding for Medicaid	
74	accountable care organizations under the Department of Health in the current fiscal year.]	
75	[(d)] (c) "General Fund growth factor" means the amount determined by dividing the	
76	next fiscal year ongoing General Fund revenue estimate by current fiscal year ongoing	
77	appropriations from the General Fund.	
78	(d) "Mental health plan" means a prepaid mental health plan or a health plan that uses a	
79	fee-for-service payment model that contracts with the state's Medicaid program for behavioral	
80	health services.	
81	(e) "Next fiscal year ongoing General Fund revenue estimate" means the next fiscal	
82	year ongoing General Fund revenue estimate identified by the Executive Appropriations	

[(f) "Next fiscal year PMPM" means per-member-per-month funding for Medicaid

Subcommittee, in accordance with legislative rule, for use by the Office of the Legislative

Fiscal Analyst in preparing budget recommendations.

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86	accountable care organizations under the Department of Health for the next fiscal year.]
87	(f) "PMPM" means per-member-per-month funding.
88	(2) If the General Fund growth factor is less than 100%, the next fiscal year base
89	budget shall include an appropriation:
90	(a) to the [Department of Health for Medicaid] department for ACOs under the
91	<u>department</u> in an amount necessary to ensure that <u>the</u> next fiscal year PMPM <u>for the ACOs</u>
92	equals the current fiscal year PMPM for the ACOs multiplied by 100%[-]; and
93	(b) subject to Subsection (5), to the Department of Human Services for mental health
94	plans under the Department of Human Services in an amount necessary to ensure that the
95	funding for the mental health plans in the next fiscal year equals the funding for the mental
96	health plans in the current fiscal year multiplied by 100%.
97	(3) If the General Fund growth factor is greater than or equal to 100%, but less than
98	102%, the next fiscal year base budget shall include an appropriation:
99	(a) to the [Department of Health for Medicaid] department for ACOs under the
100	<u>department</u> in an amount necessary to ensure that <u>the</u> next fiscal year PMPM <u>for the ACOs</u>
101	equals the current fiscal year PMPM for the ACOs multiplied by the General Fund growth
102	factor[:]; and
103	(b) subject to Subsection (5), to the Department of Human Services for mental health
104	plans under the Department of Human Services in an amount necessary to ensure that the
105	funding for the mental health plans in the next fiscal year equals the funding for the mental
106	health plans in the current fiscal year multiplied by the General Fund growth factor.
107	(4) If the General Fund growth factor is greater than or equal to 102%, the next fiscal
108	year base budget shall include an appropriation:
109	(a) to the [Department of Health for Medicaid] department for ACOs under the
110	department in an amount necessary to ensure that the next fiscal year PMPM for the ACOs is
111	greater than or equal to the current fiscal year PMPM for the ACOs multiplied by 102% and
112	less than or equal to the current fiscal year PMPM for the ACOs multiplied by the General
113	Fund growth factor[:]; and

(b) subject to Subsection (5), to the Department of Human Services for mental health	
plans under the Department of Human Services in an amount necessary to ensure that the	
funding for the mental health plans in the next fiscal year is greater than or equal to the funding	
for the mental health plans in the current fiscal year multiplied by 102% and less than or equal	
to the funding for the mental health plans in the current fiscal year multiplied by the General	
Fund growth factor.	
(5) The appropriations provided to the Department of Human Services under this	
section shall be reduced by the amount contributed by counties in the current fiscal year for	
mental health plans under the Department of Human Services in accordance with Subsections	
17-43-201(5)(k) and 17-43-301(6)(a)(x).	
[(5)] (6) In order for the department and the Department of Human Services to estimate	
the impact of Subsections (2) through (4) [prior to] before identification of the next fiscal year	
ongoing General Fund revenue estimate [under Subsection (1)(e)], the Governor's Office of	
Management and Budget shall, in cooperation with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst,	
develop an estimate of ongoing General Fund revenue for the next fiscal year and provide [it]	
the estimate to the department and the Department of Human Services no later than September	
1 of each year.	
Section 2. Section 31A-22-649.5 is amended to read:	
31A-22-649.5. Insurance parity for telemedicine services Method of technology	
used.	
(1) As used in this section:	
[(a) "Telehealth services" means the same as that term is defined in Section	
26-60-102.]	
(a) "Mental health condition" means a mental disorder or a substance-related disorder	
that falls under a diagnostic category listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, as	
periodically revised.	
(b) "Telemedicine services" means the same as that term is defined in Section	
26-60-102.	

142	(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31A-22-618.5, a health benefit plan	
143	offered in the individual market, the small group market, or the large group market [and	
144	entered into or renewed on or after January 1, 2021,] shall:	
145	(a) provide coverage for:	
146	(i) telemedicine services that are covered by Medicare; and	
147	[(b) reimburse, at a commercially reasonable rate, a network provider that provides the	
148	telemedicine services described in Subsection (2)(a).]	
149	(ii) treatment of a mental health condition through telemedicine services if:	
150	(A) the health benefit plan provides coverage for the treatment of the mental health	
151	condition through in-person services; and	
152	(B) the health benefit plan determines treatment of the mental health condition through	
153	telemedicine services meets the appropriate standard of care; and	
154	(b) reimburse a network provider that provides the telemedicine services described in	
155	Subsection (2)(a) at a negotiated commercially reasonable rate.	
156	(3) (a) Notwithstanding Section 31A-45-303, a health benefit plan providing	
157	[treatment] coverage under Subsection (2)(a) may not impose originating site restrictions,	
158	geographic restrictions, or distance-based restrictions.	
159	(b) A network provider that provides the telemedicine services described in Subsection	
160	(2)(a) may utilize any synchronous audiovisual technology for the telemedicine services that is	
161	compliant with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.	
162	Section 3. Section 58-1-401 is amended to read:	
163	58-1-401. Grounds for denial of license Disciplinary proceedings Time	
164	limitations Sanctions.	
165	(1) The division shall refuse to issue a license to an applicant and shall refuse to renew	
166	or shall revoke, suspend, restrict, place on probation, or otherwise act upon the license of a	
167	licensee who does not meet the qualifications for licensure under this title.	
168	(2) The division may refuse to issue a license to an applicant and may refuse to renew	
169	or may revoke, suspend, restrict, place on probation, issue a public reprimand to, or otherwise	

act upon the license of a licensee for the following reasons:

(a) subject to the provisions of Subsection (7), the applicant or licensee has engaged in unprofessional conduct, as defined by statute or rule under this title;

- (b) the applicant or licensee has engaged in unlawful conduct as defined by statute under this title;
- (c) the applicant or licensee has been determined to be mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction; or
- (d) <u>subject to Subsections 58-31b-401(7)</u>, 58-60-108(2), 58-61-401(2), 58-67-401(2), 58-68-401(2), 58-70a-401(2), and Section 58-81-105, the applicant or licensee is unable to practice the occupation or profession with reasonable skill and safety because of illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or other type of material, or as a result of a mental or physical condition, when the condition demonstrates a threat or potential threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.
- (3) A licensee whose license to practice an occupation or profession regulated by this title has been suspended, revoked, placed on probation, or restricted may apply for reinstatement of the license at reasonable intervals and upon compliance with conditions imposed upon the licensee by statute, rule, or terms of the license suspension, revocation, probation, or restriction.
 - (4) The division may issue cease and desist orders to:
 - (a) a licensee or applicant who may be disciplined under Subsection (1) or (2);
- (b) a person who engages in or represents that the person is engaged in an occupation or profession regulated under this title; and
 - (c) a person who otherwise violates this title or a rule adopted under this title.
- 193 (5) The division may impose an administrative penalty in accordance with Section 194 58-1-502.
 - (6) (a) The division may not take disciplinary action against a person for unprofessional or unlawful conduct under this title, unless the division enters into a stipulated agreement or initiates an adjudicative proceeding regarding the conduct within four years after

the conduct is reported to the division, except under Subsection (6)(b).

(b) (i) The division may not take disciplinary action against a person for unprofessional or unlawful conduct more than 10 years after the occurrence of the conduct, unless the proceeding is in response to a civil or criminal judgment or settlement and the proceeding is initiated within one year following the judgment or settlement.

- (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (6)(b)(i), the division may refuse to issue a license due to unprofessional or unlawful conduct that occurred more than 10 years before a request or application for licensure is made.
- (7) When the division is determining whether to refuse to issue a license to an applicant, or to refuse to renew the license of a licensee, based solely on the criminal conviction of an applicant or licensee, the division shall:
 - (a) provide individualized consideration to the applicant or licensee;
- (b) determine whether the criminal conviction bears a substantial relationship to the applicant's or licensee's ability to safely or competently practice the occupation or profession; and
- (c) consider the applicant's or licensee's current circumstances, which may include any of the following:
- (i) the age of the applicant or licensee when the applicant or licensee committed the offense;
 - (ii) the time that has elapsed since the applicant or licensee committed the offense;
- (iii) whether the applicant or licensee has completed the applicant's or licensee's criminal sentence;
- (iv) whether the applicant has completed or is actively participating in rehabilitative drug or alcohol treatment;
- (v) any testimonials or recommendations from other individuals provided by the applicant or licensee, including a progress report from the applicant's or licensee's probation or parole officer;
 - (vi) other evidence of rehabilitation provided by the applicant or licensee;

226	(vii) the education and training of the applicant or licensee;
227	(viii) the employment history of the applicant or licensee; and
228	(ix) other relevant information provided by the applicant or licensee.
229	Section 4. Section 58-31b-401 is amended to read:
230	58-31b-401. Grounds for denial of licensure or certification and disciplinary
231	proceedings.
232	(1) (a) As used in this section, "licensed" or "license" includes certified or certification
233	under this chapter.
234	(b) A term or condition applied to the word "nurse" under this section applies to a
235	medication aide certified.
236	(2) Grounds for refusal to issue a license to an applicant, for refusal to renew the
237	license of a licensee, to revoke, suspend, restrict, or place on probation the license of a licensee
238	to issue a public or private reprimand to a licensee, and to issue cease and desist orders shall be
239	in accordance with Section 58-1-401.
240	[(2) If] (3) (a) (i) Subject to Subsection (7), if a court of competent jurisdiction
241	determines a nurse is incapacitated as defined in Section 75-1-201 or that the nurse has a
242	mental illness, as defined in Section 62A-15-602, and is unable to safely engage in the practice
243	of nursing, the director shall immediately suspend the license of the nurse upon the entry of the
244	judgment of the court, without further proceedings under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative
245	Procedures Act, regardless of whether an appeal from the court's ruling is pending.
246	(ii) The director shall promptly notify the nurse in writing of [the] <u>a</u> suspension <u>under</u>
247	Subsection (3)(a)(i).
248	[(3) (a) If] (b) (i) Subject to Subsection (7), if the division and the majority of the
249	board find reasonable cause to believe a nurse who is not determined judicially to be an
250	incapacitated person or to have a mental illness, is incapable of practicing nursing with
251	reasonable skill regarding the safety of patients, because of illness, excessive use of drugs or
252	alcohol, or as a result of any mental or physical condition, the board shall recommend that the
253	director file a petition with the division, and cause the petition to be served upon the nurse with

254 a notice of hearing on the sole issue of the capacity of the nurse to competently, safely engage 255 in the practice of nursing. 256 [(b) The] (ii) Except as provided in Subsection (4), the hearing described in 257 Subsection (3)(b)(i) shall be conducted under Section 58-1-109 and Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act[, except as provided in Subsection (4)]. 258 259 (4) (a) Every nurse who accepts the privilege of being licensed under this chapter gives 260 consent to: 261 (i) submitting to an immediate mental or physical examination, at the nurse's expense 262 and by a division-approved practitioner selected by the nurse when directed in writing by the 263 division and a majority of the board to do so; and (ii) the admissibility of the reports of the examining practitioner's testimony or 264 examination, and waives all objections on the ground the reports constitute a privileged 265 266 communication. 267 (b) The examination may be ordered by the division, with the consent of a majority of 268 the board, only upon a finding of reasonable cause to believe: 269 (i) the nurse has a mental illness, is incapacitated, or otherwise unable to practice 270 nursing with reasonable skill and safety; and (ii) immediate action by the division and the board is necessary to prevent harm to the 271 272 nurse's patients or the general public. 273 (c) (i) Failure of a nurse to submit to the examination ordered under this section is a 274 ground for the division's immediate suspension of the nurse's license by written order of the 275 director. 276 (ii) The division may enter the order of suspension without further compliance with 277 Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, unless the division finds the failure to 278 submit to the examination ordered under this section was due to circumstances beyond the 279 control of the nurse and was not related directly to the illness or incapacity of the nurse.

(5) (a) A nurse whose license is suspended under Subsection [(2),] (3)[-] or (4)(c) has

the right to a hearing to appeal the suspension within 10 days after the license is suspended.

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(b) The hearing held under this Subsection (5) shall be conducted in accordance with
Sections 58-1-108 and 58-1-109 for the sole purpose of determining if sufficient basis exists
for the continuance of the order of suspension in order to prevent harm to the nurse's patients or
the general public.
(6) A nurse whose license is revoked, suspended, or in any way restricted under this
section may request the division and the board to consider, at reasonable intervals, evidence
presented by the nurse, under procedures established by division rule, regarding any change in
the nurse's condition, to determine whether:
(a) the nurse is or is not able to safely and competently engage in the practice of
nursing; and
(b) the nurse is qualified to have the nurse's license to practice under this chapter
restored completely or in part.
(7) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or
participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
[(7) Nothing in]
(8) Section 63G-2-206 may <u>not</u> be construed as limiting the authority of the division to
report current significant investigative information to the coordinated licensure information
system for transmission to party states as required of the division by Article VII of the Nurse
Licensure Compact - Revised in Section 58-31e-102.
[(8) For purposes of this section:]
[(a) "licensed" or "license" includes "certified" or "certification" under this chapter;
and]
[(b) any terms or conditions applied to the word "nurse" in this section also apply to a
medication aide certified.]
Section 5. Section 58-60-108 is amended to read:
58-60-108. Grounds for action regarding license Disciplinary proceedings.
[The] (1) Subject to Subsection (2), the division's grounds for refusing to issue a

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310	license to an applicant, for refusing to renew the license of a licensee, for revoking, suspending,
311	restricting, or placing on probation the license of a licensee, for issuing a public or private
312	reprimand to a licensee, and for issuing a cease and desist order are under Section 58-1-401.
313	(2) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
314	licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or
315	participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
316	Section 6. Section 58-61-401 is amended to read:
317	58-61-401. Grounds for action regarding license Disciplinary proceedings.
318	[The] (1) Subject to Subsection (2), the division's grounds for refusing to issue a
319	license to an applicant, for refusing to renew the license of a licensee, for revoking, suspending,
320	restricting, or placing on probation the license of a licensee, for issuing a public or private
321	reprimand to a licensee, and for issuing a cease and desist order are under Section 58-1-401.
322	(2) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
323	licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or
324	participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
325	Section 7. Section 58-67-401 is amended to read:
326	58-67-401. Grounds for denial of license Disciplinary proceedings.
327	[Grounds] (1) Subject to Subsection (2), grounds for division action are set forth in
328	Sections 58-1-401 and 58-67-503.
329	(2) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
330	licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or
331	participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
332	Section 8. Section 58-68-401 is amended to read:
333	58-68-401. Grounds for denial of license Disciplinary proceedings.
334	[Grounds] (1) Subject to Subsection (2), grounds for division action are set forth in
335	Sections 58-1-401 and 58-68-503.
336	(2) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
337	licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or

338	participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
339	Section 9. Section 58-70a-401 is amended to read:
340	58-70a-401. Grounds for denial of license Disciplinary proceedings.
341	[Grounds] (1) Subject to Subsection (2), grounds for the following division actions
342	regarding a licensee are under Section 58-1-401:
343	[(1)] (a) refusing to issue a license to an applicant;
344	[(2)] (b) refusing to renew the license of a licensee;
345	[(3)] (c) revoking, suspending, restricting, or placing on probation the license of a
346	licensee;
347	[(4)] (d) issuing a public or private reprimand to a licensee; and
348	[(5)] <u>(e)</u> issuing a cease and desist order.
349	(2) The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict an applicant or
350	licensee's license under this chapter solely because the applicant or licensee seeks or
351	participates in mental health or substance abuse treatment.
352	Section 10. Section 58-81-105 is enacted to read:
353	58-81-105. Grounds for denial of license.
354	The division may not refuse, revoke, suspend, or in any way restrict the license of a
355	health care practitioner, as defined in Subsections 58-81-102(2)(c), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (l),
356	under this chapter solely because the health care practitioner seeks or participates in mental
357	health or substance abuse treatment.
358	Section 11. Appropriation.
359	The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
360	2021 and ending June 30, 2022. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
361	fiscal year 2022. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures
362	Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts
363	indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.
364	ITEM 1
365	To Department of Health Medicaid Services

From Federal Funds \$3,780,000	
From Federal Funds, One-time (\$2,950,000)	
From Expendable Receipts \$340,000	
From Expendable Receipts, One-time (\$260,000)	
From Medicaid Expansion Fund \$36,000	
From Medicaid Expansion Fund, One-time (\$26,000)	
Schedule of Programs:	
Medicaid Expansion \$80,000	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse \$1,142,600	
The Legislature intends that the Department of Health use the appropriations provided	
under this item to increase the Medicaid reimbursement rates for mental health plans.	
ITEM 2	
To Department of Human Services Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health	
From General Fund \$1,369,100	
From General Fund, One-time (\$1,066,500)	
Schedule of Programs:	
Mental Health Centers \$302,600	
The Legislature intends that the Department of Human Services use the appropriations	
provided under this item to increase the Medicaid reimbursement rates for mental health plans.	
Section 12. Effective date.	
(1) Except as provided in Subsections (2) and (3), this bill takes effect on May 5, 2021.	
(2) The amendments to Section 31A-22-649.5, if approved by two-thirds of all the	
members elected to each house, take effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following	
the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's	
signature, or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.	
(3) The amendments to Section 26-18-405.5 take effect on July 1, 2022.	
Section 13. Coordinating S.B. 161 with S.B. 41 Superseding amendment.	
If this S.B. 161 and S.B. 41, Mental Health Access Amendments, both pass and become	

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394	law, the Legislature intends that the amendments to Section 31A-22-649.5 in this bill supersede
395	the amendments to Section 31A-22-649.5 in S.B. 41 when the Office of Legislative Research
396	and General Counsel prepare the Utah Code database for publication.

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