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**HOUSE BILL 2584**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Caldier, Frame, Leavitt, and Davis

Read first time 01/15/20. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing rates for behavioral health  
2 services; and adding a new section to chapter 71.24 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71.24  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) It is the intent of the legislature that behavioral health  
7 medicaid rate increases be grounded with the rate-setting process for  
8 the provider type or practice setting.

9 (2) In implementing a rate increase funded by the legislature,  
10 the authority must work with the actuaries responsible for  
11 establishing medicaid rates for behavioral health services to assure  
12 that appropriate adjustments are made to the wraparound with  
13 intensive services case rate, as well as any other behavioral health  
14 services in which a case rate is used.

15 (3)(a) The authority shall establish a process for verifying that  
16 funds appropriated in the omnibus operating appropriations act for  
17 targeted behavioral health provider rate increases are used for the  
18 objectives stated in the appropriation. The process must establish  
19 transparency and accountability mechanisms to demonstrate that  
20 appropriated funds for targeted behavioral health provider rate  
21 increases are passed through, in the manner intended, to the

1 behavioral health providers who are the subject of the funds  
2 appropriated for targeted behavioral health provider rate increases.  
3 The process must include a method for determining if the funds have  
4 increased access to the behavioral health services offered by the  
5 behavioral health providers who are the subject of the targeted  
6 provider rate increases. The process must include the participation  
7 of representatives from the managed care organizations, behavioral  
8 health administrative services organizations, and providers that are  
9 the subject of the targeted behavioral health provider rate  
10 increases.

11 (b) By November 1st of each year, the authority shall report to  
12 the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over behavioral  
13 health issues and fiscal matters regarding the established process  
14 for each appropriation for a targeted behavioral health provider rate  
15 increase, whether the funds were passed through in accordance with  
16 the appropriation language, and any information about increased  
17 access to behavioral health services associated with the  
18 appropriation. The reporting requirement for each appropriation for a  
19 targeted behavioral health provider rate increase shall continue for  
20 two years following the specific appropriation.

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