

HB 2041 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires health insurance policies to reimburse mental health providers at the same rate as physicians for the same services. Exempts specified reimbursement parity provisions from automatic repeal.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies application of parity requirements.

BACKGROUND:

The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA) is a federal law that generally prohibits health insurance policies that provide mental health or substance use disorder benefits from imposing less favorable benefit limitations on those benefits than on medical/surgical benefits. MHPAEA originally applied to group health insurance coverage and was amended by the Affordable Care Act to also apply to individual health insurance coverage.

House Bill 2041 requires health insurance policies to reimburse mental health providers at the same rate as physicians for the same services.