

# ICSEW BILL ALERT

Bill #HB 2145

Medically necessary treatment of a mental health or substance use disorder



<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsu/mmary?BillNumber=2145&Initiative=false&Year=2023>

Legislative Hotline:  
**1.800.562.6000**

## Summary of bill and impact on Washington:

Requires health plans to provide medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.

- Every health plan issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2025, that provides hospital, medical, or surgical coverage shall provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.
- A health carrier shall not limit benefits or coverage for chronic or pervasive mental health and substance use disorders to short-term or acute treatment at any level of care placement.
- A health carrier shall not limit benefits or coverage for medically necessary services on the basis that those services should be or could be covered by a public entitlement program including, but not limited to, special education, Medicaid, Medicare, supplemental security income, or social security disability insurance, and shall not exclude those covered benefits on the basis that those services should be or could be covered by a public entitlement program.

ICSEW Legislative and Policy Subcommittee is providing the following Bill Alert as a service to inform state employees of bills that may impact them. ICSEW asks that employees remember to share their opinion in an ethical way, on their own time, & using their own phone, computer, or device.

As state employees, we cannot use state time or resources to lobby for or against legislative proposals (RCW [42.52.160](#) and [42.52.180](#)). On your own time and using your own resources, let your voice be heard by:

Contacting your legislator directly by phone at the legislative hotline: 1-800-562-6000.

Finding their contact information: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Commenting on a bill online. You can find out how: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/>