



SPONSOR: Sen. Townsend & Rep. Bentz  
Sens. Cloutier, Hansen, Lopez, Poore

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 1  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 143

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 WHEREAS, the Behavioral Health Consortium, herein referred to as the Consortium, has met a total of two times in  
2 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, the Consortium will develop a statewide integrated plan for addressing the prevention and treatment of  
4 substance use and mental health; and

5 WHEREAS, the Consortium has begun fostering collaboration between private and public partners who are directly  
6 working in the field of behavioral and substance abuse; and

7 WHEREAS, the Consortium members, in conjunction with legislative partners, have identified the need for  
8 additional partners to become members of the Consortium composition; and

9 WHEREAS, these additions to the Consortium's membership will only enhance the diversity of the stakeholders,  
10 both subject matter experience and cultural competence;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 Section 1. Amend § 5195, Title 16 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and  
13 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

14 § 5195 Behavioral Health Consortium.

15 (c) The Consortium shall periodically report to the Governor and General Assembly, on a schedule to be  
16 determined by the Consortium, to recommend any potential legislative action that ensures quality delivery and  
17 expanded access to behavioral health care. The first report is due by ~~March 1, 2018~~ April 16, 2018.

18 Section 2. Amend § 5196, Title 16 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and  
19 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

20 § 5196 Organization and composition of the Consortium.

21 (a) The Consortium is composed of ~~24~~ 25 members, as follows:

22 (1) ~~Seven~~ Nine individuals, or their designees, who are members of the Consortium by virtue of their respective  
23 positions, as follows:

24 h. The Chair of the Mental Health Association in Delaware.

25 i. The Executive Director of the Ability Network of Delaware.

26 (3) ~~One member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, to serve at the pleasure of~~  
27 ~~the President Pro Tempore.~~ Two members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,  
28 one appointed from the majority caucus and one appointed from the minority caucus.

29 (4) ~~One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House, to serve at the pleasure~~  
30 ~~of the Speaker.~~ Two representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed  
31 from the majority caucus and one appointed from the minority caucus.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Bill amends the membership of the Behavioral Health Consortium to include two members of both the House and Senate, a member from the Ability Network of Delaware, and the Mental Health Association in Delaware. The Bill also extends the date the first report is due from March 1, 2018 to April 16, 2018.

Author: Senator Townsend