

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5357

To provide limited licensing reciprocity for a college mental health provider to furnish mental health services through telehealth technology to students of the institution of higher education that employs such provider.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Mr. FLOOD (for himself, Mr. BACON, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide limited licensing reciprocity for a college mental health provider to furnish mental health services through telehealth technology to students of the institution of higher education that employs such provider.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “College Students Con-
5 tinuation of Mental Health Care Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. LICENSING RECIPROCITY FOR COLLEGE MENTAL**
2 **HEALTH PROVIDERS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of Federal or State law, a college mental health pro-
5 vider may, in accordance with subsection (b), furnish men-
6 tal health services to a covered student in the State in
7 which such student is located through telehealth tech-
8 nology, unless such provider is affirmatively excluded from
9 practice in such State.

10 (b) REQUIREMENTS TO FURNISH SERVICES.—

11 (1) INITIATION OF TELEHEALTH SERVICES.—
12 Prior to furnishing mental health services to a cov-
13 ered student pursuant to subsection (a), a college
14 mental health provider shall—

15 (A) verify the identity of such student;

16 (B) obtain an oral or written acknowledg-
17 ment from such student (or a legal representa-
18 tive of such student), and make a record of
19 such acknowledgment, indicating that such stu-
20 dent intends to receive mental health services
21 from such provider through telehealth tech-
22 nology;

23 (C) obtain or confirm more than 1 means
24 of telehealth technology through which such
25 provider may contact such student in case of a
26 technological failure; and

(D) in the case that the college mental health provider has not previously furnished services to such student—

(i) obtain a written acknowledgment from such student (or a legal representative of such student) indicating that such student understands that a treatment relationship is being established with such provider; or

(ii) furnish such mental health services to such student through a means of telehealth technology that allows such provider and such student to communicate in real time.

(2) SCOPE OF PRACTICE.—A college mental health provider furnishing services to a covered student pursuant to subsection (a)—

(A) except as authorized under this section with respect to the location of such student, shall act within the scope of the license or certification from, or other authorization by, the primary State described in subsection (e)(1)(B); and

(B) is not required to act within the scope of any license, certification, or other authoriza-

tion issued to similar providers in the State in which such student is located if such provider would not be required to act within such scope if such services were furnished in the primary State, except that such provider—

(i) may not furnish to such student any service or subset of services prohibited by the State in which such student is located; and

(ii) may not furnish to such student any service or subset of services in a manner prohibited by the State in which such student is located.

(c) TREATMENT OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE COVERAGE.—Any medical malpractice insurance coverage shall provide that services furnished by a college mental health provider to a covered student pursuant to subsection (a) shall be treated under such coverage as services furnished in the primary State.

(d) INTERSTATE COMPACTS FOR TELEHEALTH.—The consent of Congress is hereby given to any 2 or more States to enter into agreements or compacts, not in conflict with this section, to permit college mental health providers to furnish mental health services to covered students in each such State through telehealth technology.

1 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) COLLEGE MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER.—

3 The term “college mental health provider” means an
4 individual who—

5 (A) is employed by an institution of higher
6 education to furnish mental health services to
7 students enrolled at such institution; and

8 (B) has a valid and unrestricted license or
9 certification from, or is otherwise authorized by,
10 the primary State to furnish such mental health
11 services in such State.

12 (2) COVERED STUDENT.—The term “covered
13 student” means, with respect to a college mental
14 health provider—

15 (A) an individual registered for courses at
16 the institution of higher education that employs
17 such provider; and

18 (B) an individual that attended courses at
19 the institution of higher education that employs
20 such provider at any point during the 3-month
21 period ending on the date on which such pro-
22 vider is seeking to furnish such services to such
23 individual pursuant to subsection (a).

24 (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
25 term “institution of higher education” has the

1 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
2 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

3 (4) PRIMARY STATE.—The term “primary
4 State” means, with respect to a college mental
5 health provider, the State in which the institution of
6 higher education that employs such provider is lo-
7 cated.

8 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means a State,
9 the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession
10 of the United States.

11 (6) TELEHEALTH TECHNOLOGY.—The term
12 “telehealth technology” means telecommunications
13 and information technology, including audio-visual,
14 audio-only, or store and forward technology, used to
15 furnish mental health services at a distance.

○