SB19-195: CHILD AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

Bill Summary

The bill requires HCPF to seek federal approval to provide wraparound services for eligible children and youth. A standardized assessment tool is to be selected for the identification of behavioral health issues and another standardized tool for screening by primary care providers. State departments are to develop a plan for establishing a single statewide referral and entry point for children and youth who have a hospital screening or needs were identified through the standardized assessment. A pilot program is to be recommended to integrate funding for behavioral health intervention and treatment for children and youth.

Health District Board Action

The Board voted to take a neutral position on SB19-195 but had concerns regarding the effect the creation of a statewide referral and entry point could have on local efforts as well as what type of wraparound services would be provided to eligible children and youth.