

2019 -- H 5915

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THERAPEUTIC RIDING

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Chippendale, Edwards, Marszalkowski, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: March 28, 2019

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 40 of the General Laws entitled "HUMAN SERVICES" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 8.16

4 THERAPUETIC RIDING

5 **40-8.16-1. Eligibility for therapeutic riding benefits.**

6 All persons eligible for medical care benefits pursuant to § 40-8-3 and the regulations
7 promulgated pursuant to § 40-8.16-3 shall also be eligible for benefits to be paid by Medicaid for
8 "therapeutic riding," as that term is defined herein.

9 **40-8.16-2. Definitions.**

10 "Therapeutic riding" means an equine assisted activity for the purpose of contributing
11 positively to the cognitive, physical, emotional, and social wellbeing of individuals with special
12 needs.

13 **40-8.16-3. Rules and regulations.**

14 The department of human services and the secretary of the executive office of health and
15 human services are hereby authorized and directed to amend their rules and regulations and
16 amend the Rhode Island state plan for medical assistance (Medicaid) pursuant to Title XIX of the
17 federal Social Security Act in order to provide for payment to eligible individuals for therapeutic
18 riding services, and to establish eligibility guidelines to qualify for such services.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- THERAPEUTIC RIDING

- 1 This act would provide for Medicaid reimbursement for therapeutic riding services.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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