



## 2019-2020 Legislative Priorities in Brief

<p><i>An act to support healthy development among preschoolers</i></p> <p>Representative Balsler Senator DiDomenico</p>	<p><b>Overview</b> Would require the Department of Early Education and Care to promulgate regulations to support social, emotional, and behavioral development and limit expulsion and suspension of children from preschool programs.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Notes</b> <i>H.401 / S.264; Hearing completed 6/25 (Education); incorporated into An Act Ensuring High Quality Early Education (H.4291, House Ways &amp; Means)</i></p>
<p><i>An act to increase consumer transparency about insurance provider networks</i></p> <p>Representative Barber Senator Lewis</p>	<p><b>Overview</b> Would require insurers to meet reporting and transparency standards, give the Division of Insurance recourse in the case of violating such requirements, and provide access to out-of-network care.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Notes</b> <i>H.913 / S.610; Incorporated in Child Health and Wellness bill (H.4013 / S.2377); passed as H.4210 11/20; Signed into law as Chapter 124 of the Acts of 2019 11/26.2019</i></p>
<p><i>An act to protect children's mental health services</i></p> <p>Representative Malia Senator Keenan</p>	<p><b>Overview</b> Establishes the position of Children's Mental Health Ombuds in the Office of the Child Advocate. The role of the ombuds will be to monitor and ensure compliance with relevant child mental health statutes, regulations, rules, and policies and receive, investigate, and resolve complaints filed on behalf of a child.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Notes</b> <i>H.1736 / S.1154; Extension order filed until 4/15/2020 (Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery)</i></p>
<p><i>An act relative to mental health education</i></p> <p>Representative Higgins Senator Collins</p>	<p><b>Overview</b> Education is a vital component of prevention; this bill would amend the existing K-12 physical education mandate to include mental health as a required subject.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Notes</b> <i>H.482 / S.244; Hearing completed 7/9 (Education); sent to study.</i></p>
<p><i>An act relative to Mental Health Parity Implementation</i></p> <p>Representative Balsler Senator Friedman</p>	<p><b>Overview</b> Strengthening parity in the Commonwealth is critical to ending discrimination in the coverage of behavioral health care. By closing loopholes, increasing transparency, and providing consumers with tools to understand parity and to challenge violations, the Commonwealth can fulfill the promise of true mental health parity.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Notes</b> <i>H.910 / S.588; Hearing completed 6/6; referred from Financial Services to Health Care Finance; Passed the Senate as part of Mental Health ABC Act; pending in the House</i></p>

For in depth fact sheets on each of these bills, please visit [childrensmentalhealthcampaign.org/legislative-advocacy](http://childrensmentalhealthcampaign.org/legislative-advocacy)

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