

1 S.190

2 Introduced by Senators Miller and Mullin

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; health care reform; Blueprint for Health; behavioral contract

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to expand the role of behavioral and
7 mental health providers on community health teams in the Blueprint for Health
8 to include facilitating patient engagement in healthy behaviors.

9 An act relating to improving patient involvement in the Blueprint for Health

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 705(d) is added to read:

12 (d)(1) In addition to the activities described in subsection (c) of this
13 section, the behavioral and mental health providers on a community health
14 team shall facilitate a behavioral agreement between each patient and his or her
15 medical home. The agreement shall reflect the responsibilities of the patient
16 and the health care providers within the patient's medical home with respect to
17 a prescribed program of healthy behaviors appropriate to the individual patient,
18 which may include self-management of chronic conditions, as directed by the
19 patient's health care providers; achievement and maintenance of a healthy

1 weight; smoking cessation, if applicable; and other appropriate activities
2 directed toward maximizing the patient's health and well-being.

3 (2) The behavioral and mental health providers shall encourage each
4 patient to engage in the healthy behaviors prescribed in the agreement
5 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection and shall maintain sufficient
6 contact with each patient to evaluate the patient's compliance with the
7 agreement. In the event that a behavioral or mental health provider finds a
8 patient is not complying fully with his or her agreement or does not appear to
9 be achieving the expected results, the provider shall meet with the patient to
10 identify the cause or causes of the noncompliance or the inadequate results and
11 shall recommend to the patient or the patient's other health care providers
12 modifications to the agreement, to the providers' responsibilities, or to the
13 patient's behavior, as appropriate.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.