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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 6975

#### ***AN ACT REQUIRING A BIENNIAL STUDY OF PAYMENT PARITY FOR SERVICES UNDER CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES IN THE STATE AND THE HUSKY HEALTH PROGRAM.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) commissioner, in consultation with the insurance and social services commissioners, to complete studies every two years on whether payment parity exists between the following:

1. providers of mental health services and providers of other health care services covered under commercial health insurance (see below);
2. these providers for services covered under the HUSKY Health program (i.e., Medicaid and the state children's health insurance program); and
3. providers of mental health services covered under HUSKY and commercial health insurance.

For commercial health insurance, the study must address in-state individual and group policies covering (1) basic hospital expenses; (2) basic medical-surgical expenses; (3) major medical expenses; or (4) hospital or medical services, including those provided under an HMO plan.

Under the bill, the OHS commissioner must report by January 1, 2026, and every two years after that, to the Appropriations, Human Services, Insurance, and Public Health committees. (OHS completed a similar one-time study in 2024, as required by PA 22-47, § 58.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/05/2025)