

SENATE BILL 1726

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33,
Chapter 2, Part 4, relative to service providers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33, Chapter 2, part 4, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

33-2-422.

(a) The department of mental health and substance abuse services and the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities shall recognize the national accreditation of quality of services provided by the:

(1) Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF);

or

(2) Council on Accreditation (COA); or

(3) The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO); or

(4) The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL).

(b) Service providers for persons with intellectual disabilities in good standing with any of the entities listed in subsection (a) and meeting their accreditation requirements shall have deemed status.

(c)

(1) Service providers with deemed status shall not be subject to routine performance surveys, reviews, and audits by the department of mental health and substance abuse services and the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities except as required for compliance with terms and

conditions specified in the centers of medicare and medicaid service (CMS) approved waivers.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (c)(1), service providers with deemed status shall be subject to reviews related to fiscal accountability (FAR audits), staff training, and employee background checks as required by statute and rules.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.