



Advancing Health Care Policy
for Mental Health and Addiction

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Contact: Tiffany Huth

Phone: 202.487.8057

Email: huth@abhw.org

ABHW Commends the Administration, Congress on Signing SUD Privacy, Confidentiality Provisions into Law

Washington, DC (March 27, 2020) – The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for over 200 million people, today issued the following statement in response to President Trump signing the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, “CARES Act”, that included the re-introduced Protecting Jessica Grubb’s Legacy Act, “Legacy Act”, championed by Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) and Joe Manchin (D-WV), into law.

The following statement can be attributed to Pamela Greenberg, MPP, President and CEO, Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness:

“ABHW thanks the Administration, Senators Capito and Manchin, and Representatives Blumenauer (D-OR) and Mullin (R-OK), along with all the other champions of Part 2 legislation for their leadership and dedication to combatting the opioid epidemic. Passage of this legislation will allow for the appropriate sharing of medical and substance use disorder records which is essential for providing accurate diagnoses, whole person coordinated care, and effective treatment.

“ABHW and its members have long advocated for providers to have appropriate access to a patient’s full medical history, including substance use disorder records, to assess risks and adequately care for a patient. This law not only ensures patient safety, but also increases privacy, confidentiality, and enhanced anti-discrimination provisions.”

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[ABHW](#) is the leading health plan association working to improve access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders. ABHW’s members include national and regional health plans who care for more than 200 million people. Together we work to reduce stigma and advance federal policy on mental health and addiction care. Member companies - Aetna Behavioral Health, AmeriHealth Caritas, Anthem, Centene Corporation, Cigna, Kaiser Permanente, Magellan Health, New Directions Behavioral Health, and Optum.