

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

H. B. No. 856

Representatives Brownlee, Sigrist

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brennan, Brewer, Cockley, Piccolantonio,
Synenberg, Upchurch**

To enact sections 3902.65 and 5164.11 of the 1
Revised Code to require health benefit plans and 2
the Medicaid program to cover annual mental 3
health well checks. 4

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

Section 1. That sections 3902.65 and 5164.11 of the 5
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3902.65. (A) As used in this section: 7

(1) "Licensed mental health professional" includes all of 8
the following: 9

(a) A clinical nurse specialist or certified nurse 10
practitioner, each as defined under Chapter 4723. of the Revised 11
Code, who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, family 12
medicine, or pediatrics; 13

(b) A physician assistant licensed under Chapter 4730. of 14
the Revised Code who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, 15
family medicine, or pediatrics; 16

(c) A physician who is a primary care physician or who 17

specializes in the practice of psychiatry, family medicine, or 18
pediatrics; 19

(d) A psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the 20
Revised Code; 21

(e) A professional counselor, professional clinical 22
counselor, social worker, independent social worker, marriage 23
and family therapist, or independent marriage and family 24
therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code; 25

(f) A chemical dependency counselor licensed under Chapter 26
4758. of the Revised Code. 27

(2) "Mental health well check" means an annual visit that 28
includes a review of medical history, evaluation of risk and 29
protective factors, use of a developmentally appropriate and 30
validated mental health screening tool, education and 31
consultation on healthy lifestyle changes, referral to ongoing 32
mental health services, and other supports as needed. 33

(3) "Physician" means an individual authorized under 34
Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and 35
surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery. 36

(B) (1) Notwithstanding section 3901.71 of the Revised 37
Code, a health benefit plan shall cover an annual mental health 38
well check performed by a licensed mental health professional 39
for each child and adult enrolled in the plan to the same extent 40
that the plan covers an annual physical health well check. 41

(C) The superintendent of insurance shall adopt rules in 42
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement 43
this section. 44

Sec. 5164.11. (A) As used in this section, "licensed" 45

mental health professional" and "mental health well check" have 46
the same meanings as in section 3902.65 of the Revised Code. 47

(B) The medicaid program shall cover an annual mental 48
health well check performed by a licensed mental health 49
professional for each medicaid recipient to the same extent that 50
a physical health well check is covered. 51

(C) The medicaid director shall adopt rules in accordance 52
with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section. 53

Section 2. The enactment of section 3902.65 of the Revised 54
Code by this act applies to health benefit plans, as defined in 55
section 3922.01 of the Revised Code, that are delivered, issued 56
for delivery, modified, or renewed on or after the effective 57
date of this section. 58