



## Common Sense Initiative

**Mike DeWine**, Governor  
**Jon Husted**, Lt. Governor

**Sean McCullough**, Director

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Emily Henry, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

**FROM:** Ethan Wittkorn, Regulatory Policy Advocate

**DATE:** **October 28, 2021**

**RE:** **CSI Review – OMHAS Peer Services (OAC 5122-29-15 and 5122-29-15.1)**

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On behalf of Lt. Governor Jon Husted, and pursuant to the authority granted to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 107.54, the CSI Office has reviewed the abovementioned administrative rule package and associated Business Impact Analysis (BIA). This memo represents the CSI Office's comments to the Agency as provided for in ORC 107.54.

#### Analysis

This Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (Department) rule package consists of one amended rule, one new rule, and one rescinded rule as part of the statutory five-year rule review requirement. It was submitted to the CSI Office on September 2, 2021, and the public comment period was open through September 17, 2021. Unless otherwise noted below, this recommendation reflects the version of the proposed rule filed with the CSI Office on September 2, 2021.

The amended rule covers the definitions and categorization of peer support services. The rule is being amended to update terminology and definitions. Additionally, the Department has proposed a new rule (replacing the rescinded rule) to provide three peer supporter classifications based on the individual certified and the peer support services they wish to provide.

During the early stakeholder outreach period, the Department held both in-person and virtual stakeholder meetings to take public input on the proposed rules. Comments led the Department to update titles and certification requirements, providing for coaching call courses as required continuing education, and other small clarifying tweaks. No further comments were submitted

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during the CSI public comment period.

Impacted communities may include providers of certified peer services and those who wish to be a peer supporter for certified providers. Potential impacts may include the administrative time and costs to implement updated procedures, certification requirements, certification renewal requirements, completing required background checks, and following the code of ethics outlined in rule. The Department states that the proposed rules are necessary to provide framework for providers to follow to ensure compliance for Ohio Medicaid reimbursement.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the information above, the CSI Office has no recommendations on this rule package.

### **Conclusion**

The CSI Office concludes that the Department should proceed in filing the proposed rules with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.