NCSL POLICY PURSUIT!
Hot Topics in Behavioral Health
Rules of the Game

• Teams will answer questions by category as they appear on the board—starting with ARPA and ending with mental health parity.
• Teams still have the choice of which dollar amount they want to go for.
• Teams will have 20 seconds to discuss their answer.
• If a team answers a question wrong, we will give the next team a chance to steal. If they also get it wrong, the third team gets a chance as well.
• Teams must answer questions in classic Jeopardy format (e.g., “Who is Kelly?”).
• Tie = Final Jeopardy
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Recognizing the pandemic has affected more than just our physical health, at least 19 states have allocated ARPA funding to focus on this.
States have leveraged ARPA funding to address the mental health crisis among this subset of the population, as highlighted by the U.S. Surgeon General in December 2021.
This Rocky Mountain state allocated ARPA funds for the "Behavioral Health Recovery Act of 2021".
988 Hotline $100

States can use this fee to raise revenues to support 988 in their states.
These teams, often made up of trained health care workers, social workers, and first responders, can provide health care services outside of traditional brick-and-mortar settings.
These services provide short-term intensive behavioral health care to individuals and can keep them out of emergency departments.
Social Determinants of Health $100

What policy option allows parents to bond with children after birth, adoption or foster placement and has also been known to improve mom’s mental health?
These are geographic areas where residents have few to no convenient options to buy affordable and healthy foods—especially fresh fruits and vegetables.
These savings accounts could help close wealth gaps and reduce income inequality. Created for children at birth, they receive deposits $1,000-$2,000 annually until the child turns 18.
Mental Health Parity $100

True or False:
If state law requires plans to cover mental health conditions, then they must do so, even though federal parity makes inclusion of any mental health benefits optional.
Mental Health Parity $200

I have purchased a plan from my state health care exchange. If I want to file a complaint relating to my mental health parity coverage, I would file a complaint with this state agency.
Mental Health Parity $300

Whether or not a plan is covered by federal parity law depends on the kind of health plan a person is enrolled in. This type of plan – public or private – does not have to comply with the federal parity law.
Final Jeopardy

These health care providers, who are in recovery themselves, can help other people with a substance use disorder navigate their care options and recovery.