

By: Thierry

H.B. No. 470

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an acute psychiatric bed registry to list available beds for the inpatient psychiatric treatment of certain individuals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 7, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 535 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 535. ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC BED REGISTRY IN CERTAIN COUNTIES

Sec. 535.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "inpatient mental health facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 571.003.

Sec. 535.002. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies only to counties with a population of four million or more.

Sec. 535.003. DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF REGISTRY.

(a) The commission shall develop and administer an Internet-based and searchable acute psychiatric bed registry to collect, aggregate, and display information on available beds at inpatient mental health facilities located in a county to which this chapter applies for the inpatient psychiatric treatment of individuals.

(b) For each inpatient mental health facility, the acute psychiatric bed registry must list:

(1) the name and contact information of the facility;

(2) the number of available beds;

(3) the type of individual who may be admitted;

1 (4) the level of security provided; and

2 (5) any other information that may be necessary to
3 identify appropriate beds for the inpatient psychiatric treatment
4 of individuals.

5 (c) The commission shall make the acute psychiatric bed
6 registry available to law enforcement agencies, community service
7 boards, mental health facilities, public and private residential
8 crisis stabilization units, emergency care facilities, and
9 emergency care providers located in a county to which this chapter
10 applies. The commission may make the registry available to any
11 other person the commission considers appropriate.

12 (d) The commission may contract with any person the
13 commission considers appropriate to develop and administer the
14 acute psychiatric bed registry.

15 Sec. 535.004. INPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY
16 REQUIREMENTS. (a) An inpatient mental health facility located in
17 a county to which this chapter applies shall submit to the
18 commission information for the acute psychiatric bed registry as
19 required by the commission and review the information and confirm
20 the information's accuracy to the commission at least once daily
21 and whenever there is a change in bed availability at the facility.

22 (b) An inpatient mental health facility located in a county
23 to which this chapter applies shall designate an employee or
24 employees as necessary to:

25 (1) submit to the commission the information required
26 under Subsection (a) and review the information as required by that
27 subsection; and

1 (2) serve as a contact for questions about the
2 information submitted.

3 Sec. 535.005. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. The commission
4 may accept gifts, grants, or donations from a public or private
5 source to carry out this chapter.

6 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2024, the Health and
7 Human Services Commission shall establish the acute psychiatric bed
8 registry required by Chapter 535, Health and Safety Code, as added
9 by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.