

By: Meza, Moody, Reynolds, Cain, et al.

H.B. No. 484

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to suicide prevention in municipal jails.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 361, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 361.902 to read as follows:

Sec. 361.902. SUICIDE PREVENTION IN MUNICIPAL JAIL. (a) A municipal jail shall:

(1) provide two hours of training to each jailer or person responsible for the supervision of a person confined in the jail on the procedures for identifying, documenting, and handling a person who is potentially suicidal or has a mental health condition;

(2) conduct and document mental health screenings during the intake process in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Commission on Jail Standards for county jails;

(3) install cameras in the hall directly outside the cell of any person who is identified as potentially suicidal;

(4) regularly check on each person confined in the jail who is identified as potentially suicidal; and

(5) report to the attorney general, in the manner prescribed by the attorney general, any incident involving the suicide or attempted suicide of a person confined in the jail not later than 48 hours after the incident.

(b) Subsection (a)(1) does not apply to a municipal jail

1 that requires individuals described by that subdivision to complete  
2 a municipal jailer training or certification course as a condition  
3 of employment.

4 (c) The attorney general may use the information reported  
5 under Subsection (a)(5) only for purposes of data collection and  
6 analysis.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.