

By: Garcia, Frank, Lopez of Bexar, Bumgarner,  
Dorazio, et al.

H.B. No. 4972

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study on mental health services provided to veterans  
through the Texas Veterans Commission.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section, the "commission" means the  
Texas Veterans Commission.

(b) The commission, in collaboration with the Health and  
Human Services Commission, shall conduct a study to evaluate  
strategies to improve and expand mental health services provided  
through the commission's Military Veteran Peer Network. The study  
must include recommendations on expanding the number of certified  
peer service coordinators who provide mental health services to  
service members, veterans, and family members of service members or  
veterans.

(c) The study required by this section must focus on the  
provision of certified peer service coordinators in rural  
communities in this state.

(d) Not later than December 1, 2024, the commission shall  
prepare and submit a report to the legislature containing the  
findings of the study and any recommendations for legislative or  
other action.

SECTION 2. This Act expires September 1, 2025.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.