

Amend **CSHB 1**, by adding the following appropriately numbered rider in Article II of the bill following the special provisions relating to all health and human services agencies:

_____. Funding Equity Among Local Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authorities. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of State Health Services and the Department of Aging and Disability Services shall implement a long-term plan to achieve equity in state funding allocations among local mental health and mental retardation authorities. The plan shall be implemented from fiscal years 2007-2015. The goal of the plan shall be to achieve equity to the greatest extent possible by fiscal year 2015; however, any funding reductions to a local authority for achieving equity may not exceed 5 percent of allocated general revenue in a fiscal year. The plan shall also provide for improving funding equity to be a priority in distributing any new state or federal funds that may become available for allocation to community centers.

(b) In assessing the equity of funding the departments may use alternatives other than basing equity calculations solely on the total population served by each local authority. Additional factors, such as incidence of poverty and the number of uninsured persons, may be considered if they help to provide a better estimate of the need for state funded mental health or mental retardation services in the areas served by each local authority. The departments shall submit the long-term equity plan to the Office of the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board by December 31, 2007. The departments shall include in legislative appropriations requests a table showing how implementation of the equity plan will affect projected allocations to community centers at the baseline current services funding level.