

Amend **CSHB 3793** (Senate Committee Printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 1001, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Sec. 1001.201. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Educator" means a person who is required to hold a certificate issued under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code.

(2) "Local mental health authority" has the meaning assigned by Section 531.002 and includes the local behavioral health authority for the NorthSTAR Behavioral Health Program.

(3) "Regional education service center" means a regional education service center established under Chapter 8, Education Code.

Sec. 1001.202. GRANTS FOR TRAINING OF MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINERS. (a) To the extent funds are appropriated to the department for that purpose, the department shall make grants to local mental health authorities to contract with persons approved by the department to train employees or contractors of the authorities as mental health first aid trainers.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the department shall make each grant to a local mental health authority under this section in an amount equal to \$1,000 times the number of employees or contractors of the authority whose training as mental health first aid trainers will be paid by the grant.

(c) For each state fiscal year, the total amount the department may grant to a local mental health authority under this section may not exceed the lesser of \$30,000 or three percent of the funds appropriated to the department for making grants under this section.

(d) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to establish the requirements for a person to be approved by the department to train employees or contractors of a local mental health authority as mental health first aid trainers. The rules must ensure that a person who is approved by the department is qualified to provide training in:

(1) the potential risk factors and warning signs for various mental illnesses, including depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, eating disorders, substance abuse disorders, and self-injury;

(2) the prevalence of various mental illnesses in the United States and the need to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness;

(3) an action plan for use by the employees or contractors that involves the use of skills, resources, and knowledge to assess a situation and develop and implement an appropriate intervention to help an individual experiencing a mental health crisis obtain appropriate professional care; and

(4) the evidence-based professional, peer, social, and self-help resources available to help individuals with mental illness.

(e) Two or more local mental health authorities may collaborate and share resources to provide training for employees or contractors of the authorities under this section.

Sec. 1001.203. GRANTS FOR TRAINING CERTAIN EDUCATORS IN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID. (a) To the extent funds are appropriated to the department for that purpose, the department shall make grants to local mental health authorities to provide an approved mental health first aid training program, administered by mental health first aid trainers, at no cost to educators.

(b) For each state fiscal year, the total amount the department may grant to a local mental health authority under this section may not exceed the lesser of \$40,000 or three percent of the funds appropriated to the department for making grants under this section.

(c) Subject to the limit provided by Subsection (b), out of the funds appropriated to the department for making grants under this section, the department shall grant \$100 to a local mental health authority for each educator who successfully completes a mental health first aid training program provided by the authority under this section.

(d) A mental health first aid training program provided by a local mental health authority under this section must:

(1) be conducted by a person trained as a mental health first aid trainer;

(2) provide participants with the skills necessary to help an individual experiencing a mental health crisis until the individual is able to obtain appropriate professional care; and

(3) include:

(A) instruction in a five-step strategy for helping an individual experiencing a mental health crisis, including assessing risk, listening respectfully to and supporting the individual, and identifying professional help and other supports for the individual;

(B) an introduction to the risk factors and warning signs for mental illness and substance abuse problems;

(C) experiential activities to increase participants' understanding of the impact of mental illness on individuals and families; and

(D) a presentation of evidence-supported treatment and self-help strategies.

(e) A local mental health authority may contract with a regional education service center to provide a mental health first aid training program to educators under this section.

(f) Two or more local mental health authorities may collaborate and share resources to develop and operate a mental health first aid training program under this section.

Sec. 1001.204. PLANS FOR MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAMS. (a) Not later than October 1 of each state fiscal year for which a local mental health authority will seek a grant from the department under Section 1001.203, the authority shall submit to the department a plan demonstrating the manner in which grants made to the authority under that section will be used:

(1) to train individuals in mental health first aid throughout the authority's local service area to maximize the number of children who have direct contact with an individual who has successfully completed a mental health first aid training program provided by the authority;

(2) to meet the greatest needs of the authority's local service area, as identified by the authority; and

(3) to complement existing resources and not duplicate established mental health first aid training efforts.

(b) The department may not make a grant to a local mental health authority under Section 1001.203 unless the department has evaluated a plan submitted by the authority under this section.

Sec. 1001.205. REPORTS. (a) Not later than July 1 of each year, a local mental health authority shall provide to the department the number of:

(1) employees and contractors of the authority who were trained as mental health first aid trainers under Section 1001.202;

(2) educators who completed a mental health first aid training program offered by the authority under Section 1001.203 during the preceding calendar year; and

(3) individuals who are not educators who completed a mental health first aid training program offered by the authority during the preceding calendar year.

(b) Not later than August 1 of each year, the department shall compile the information submitted by local mental health authorities as required by Subsection (a) and submit a report to the legislature containing the number of:

(1) authority employees and contractors trained as mental health first aid trainers;

(2) educators who completed a mental health first aid training program provided by an authority during the preceding calendar year; and

(3) individuals who are not educators who completed a mental health first aid training program provided by an authority during the preceding calendar year.

Sec. 1001.206. LIABILITY. A person who has completed a mental health first aid training program offered by a local mental health authority under this subchapter and who in good faith attempts to assist an individual experiencing a mental health crisis is not liable in civil damages for an act performed in attempting to assist the individual unless the act is wilfully or wantonly negligent.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 21.054, Education Code, is amended by

adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) The board shall adopt rules that allow an educator to fulfill up to 12 hours of continuing education by participating in a mental health first aid training program offered by a local mental health authority under Section 1001.203, Health and Safety Code. The number of hours of continuing education an educator may fulfill under this subsection may not exceed the number of hours the educator actually spends participating in a mental health first aid training program.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. The change in law made by this Act to added Section 1001.206, Health and Safety Code, applies only to a cause of action that accrues on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of action that accrues before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.