

By: Burkett

H.B. No. 1191

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain information about housing for persons with mental illness provided through the Texas Information and Referral Network Internet site.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.03132 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.03132. ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO REFERRAL INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSING OPTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS. (a) The commission shall make available through the Texas Information and Referral Network Internet site established under Section 531.0313 information regarding housing options for persons with mental illness provided by public or private entities throughout the state. The Internet site will serve as a single point of access through which a person may be directed on how or where to apply for housing for persons with mental illness in the person's community.

(b) To the extent resources are available, the Internet site must be geographically indexed and designed to inform a person about the housing options for persons with mental illness provided in the area where the person lives.

(c) The Internet site must contain a searchable listing of available housing options for persons with mental illness by type, with a definition for each type of housing and an explanation of the populations of persons with mental illness generally served by that

1 type of housing. The list must contain at a minimum the following  
2 types of housing for persons with mental illness:

3 (1) state hospitals;  
4 (2) step-down units in state hospitals;  
5 (3) community hospitals;  
6 (4) private psychiatric hospitals;  
7 (5) a provider of inpatient treatment services in the  
8 network of service providers assembled by a local mental health  
9 authority under Section 535.035(e);

10 (6) assisted living facilities;  
11 (7) continuing care facilities;  
12 (8) boarding homes;  
13 (9) emergency shelters for homeless persons;  
14 (10) transitional housing intended to move homeless  
15 persons to permanent housing;

16 (11) supportive housing, or long-term,  
17 community-based affordable housing that provides supportive  
18 services;

19 (12) general residential operations, as defined by  
20 Section 42.002, Human Resources Code; and

21 (13) residential treatment centers, or a type of  
22 general residential operation that provides services to children  
23 with emotional disorders in a structured and supportive  
24 environment.

25 (d) Each entity providing housing specifically for persons  
26 with mental illness in this state, including the Department of  
27 State Health Services, municipalities, counties, other political

1 subdivisions of this state, and private entities, shall cooperate  
2 with the Texas Information and Referral Network as necessary in the  
3 administration of this section.

4         SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.