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H.B. No. 1739

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the administration of psychoactive medications to  
3 persons receiving services in certain facilities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 592.038, Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

7 (d) Each client has the right to refuse psychoactive  
8 medication, as provided by Subchapter F.

9 SECTION 2. Section 592.054(b), Health and Safety Code, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), consent is required  
12 for:

- 13 (1) all surgical procedures; and  
14 (2) as provided by Section 592.153, the administration  
15 of psychoactive medications.

16 SECTION 3. Chapter 592, Health and Safety Code, is amended  
17 by adding Subchapter F to read as follows:

18 SUBCHAPTER F. ADMINISTRATION OF PSYCHOACTIVE MEDICATIONS

19 Sec. 592.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

- 20 (1) "Capacity" means a client's ability to:  
21 (A) understand the nature and consequences of a  
22 proposed treatment, including the benefits, risks, and  
23 alternatives to the proposed treatment; and  
24 (B) make a decision whether to undergo the

1 proposed treatment.

2 (2) "Medication-related emergency" means a situation  
3 in which it is immediately necessary to administer medication to a  
4 client to prevent:

5 (A) imminent probable death or substantial  
6 bodily harm to the client because the client:

7 (i) overtly or continually is threatening  
8 or attempting to commit suicide or serious bodily harm; or

9 (ii) is behaving in a manner that indicates  
10 that the client is unable to satisfy the client's need for  
11 nourishment, essential medical care, or self-protection; or

12 (B) imminent physical or emotional harm to  
13 another because of threats, attempts, or other acts the client  
14 overtly or continually makes or commits.

15 (3) "Psychoactive medication" means a medication  
16 prescribed for the treatment of symptoms of psychosis or other  
17 severe mental or emotional disorders and that is used to exercise an  
18 effect on the central nervous system to influence and modify  
19 behavior, cognition, or affective state when treating the symptoms  
20 of mental illness. "Psychoactive medication" includes the  
21 following categories when used as described in this subdivision:

22 (A) antipsychotics or neuroleptics;

23 (B) antidepressants;

24 (C) agents for control of mania or depression;

25 (D) antianxiety agents;

26 (E) sedatives, hypnotics, or other

27 sleep-promoting drugs; and

1                   (F) psychomotor stimulants.

2           Sec. 592.152. ADMINISTRATION OF PSYCHOACTIVE MEDICATION.

3   (a) A person may not administer a psychoactive medication to a  
4 client receiving voluntary or involuntary residential care  
5 services who refuses the administration unless:

6           (1) the client is having a medication-related  
7 emergency;

8           (2) the refusing client's representative authorized by  
9 law to consent on behalf of the client has consented to the  
10 administration;

11           (3) the administration of the medication regardless of  
12 the client's refusal is authorized by an order issued under Section  
13 592.156; or

14           (4) the administration of the medication regardless of  
15 the client's refusal is authorized by an order issued under Article  
16 46B.086, Code of Criminal Procedure.

17           (b) Consent to the administration of psychoactive  
18 medication given by a client or by a person authorized by law to  
19 consent on behalf of the client is valid only if:

20           (1) the consent is given voluntarily and without  
21 coercive or undue influence;

22           (2) the treating physician or a person designated by  
23 the physician provides the following information, in a standard  
24 format approved by the department, to the client and, if  
25 applicable, to the client's representative authorized by law to  
26 consent on behalf of the client:

27                   (A) the specific condition to be treated;

1           (B) the beneficial effects on that condition  
2 expected from the medication;

3           (C) the probable health care consequences of not  
4 consenting to the medication;

5           (D) the probable clinically significant side  
6 effects and risks associated with the medication;

7           (E) the generally accepted alternatives to the  
8 medication, if any, and why the physician recommends that they be  
9 rejected; and

10           (F) the proposed course of the medication;

11           (3) the client and, if appropriate, the client's  
12 representative authorized by law to consent on behalf of the client  
13 are informed in writing that consent may be revoked; and

14           (4) the consent is evidenced in the client's clinical  
15 record by a signed form prescribed by the residential care facility  
16 or by a statement of the treating physician or a person designated  
17 by the physician that documents that consent was given by the  
18 appropriate person and the circumstances under which the consent  
19 was obtained.

20           (c) If the treating physician designates another person to  
21 provide the information under Subsection (b), then, not later than  
22 two working days after that person provides the information,  
23 excluding weekends and legal holidays, the physician shall meet  
24 with the client and, if appropriate, the client's representative  
25 who provided the consent, to review the information and answer any  
26 questions.

27           (d) A client's refusal or attempt to refuse to receive

1 psychoactive medication, whether given verbally or by other  
2 indications or means, shall be documented in the client's clinical  
3 record.

4 (e) In prescribing psychoactive medication, a treating  
5 physician shall:

6 (1) prescribe, consistent with clinically appropriate  
7 medical care, the medication that has the fewest side effects or the  
8 least potential for adverse side effects, unless the class of  
9 medication has been demonstrated or justified not to be effective  
10 clinically; and

11 (2) administer the smallest therapeutically  
12 acceptable dosages of medication for the client's condition.

13 (f) If a physician issues an order to administer  
14 psychoactive medication to a client without the client's consent  
15 because the client is having a medication-related emergency:

16 (1) the physician shall document in the client's  
17 clinical record in specific medical or behavioral terms the  
18 necessity of the order and that the physician has evaluated but  
19 rejected other generally accepted, less intrusive forms of  
20 treatment, if any; and

21 (2) treatment of the client with the psychoactive  
22 medication shall be provided in the manner, consistent with  
23 clinically appropriate medical care, least restrictive of the  
24 client's personal liberty.

25 Sec. 592.153. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO CLIENT  
26 COMMITTED TO RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY. (a) In this section,  
27 "ward" has the meaning assigned by Section 601, Texas Probate Code.

1       (b) A person may not administer a psychoactive medication to  
2 a client who refuses to take the medication voluntarily unless:

3           (1) the client is having a medication-related  
4 emergency;

5           (2) the client is under an order issued under Section  
6 592.156 authorizing the administration of the medication  
7 regardless of the client's refusal; or

8           (3) the client is a ward who is 18 years of age or older  
9 and the guardian of the person of the ward consents to the  
10 administration of psychoactive medication regardless of the ward's  
11 expressed preferences regarding treatment with psychoactive  
12 medication.

13       Sec. 592.154. PHYSICIAN'S APPLICATION FOR ORDER TO  
14 AUTHORIZE PSYCHOACTIVE MEDICATION; DATE OF HEARING. (a) A  
15 physician who is treating a client may file an application in a  
16 probate court or a court with probate jurisdiction on behalf of the  
17 state for an order to authorize the administration of a  
18 psychoactive medication regardless of the client's refusal if:

19           (1) the physician believes that the client lacks the  
20 capacity to make a decision regarding the administration of the  
21 psychoactive medication;

22           (2) the physician determines that the medication is  
23 the proper course of treatment for the client; and

24           (3) the client has been committed to a residential  
25 care facility under Subchapter C, Chapter 593, or other law or an  
26 application for commitment to a residential care facility under  
27 Subchapter C, Chapter 593, has been filed for the client.

1        (b) An application filed under this section must state:

2            (1) that the physician believes that the client lacks  
3 the capacity to make a decision regarding administration of the  
4 psychoactive medication and the reasons for that belief;

5            (2) each medication the physician wants the court to  
6 compel the client to take;

7            (3) whether an application for commitment to a  
8 residential care facility under Subchapter C, Chapter 593, has been  
9 filed;

10           (4) whether an order committing the client to a  
11 residential care facility has been issued and, if so, under what  
12 authority it was issued;

13           (5) the physician's diagnosis of the client; and

14           (6) the proposed method for administering the  
15 medication and, if the method is not customary, an explanation  
16 justifying the departure from the customary methods.

17        (c) An application filed under this section must be filed  
18 separately from an application for commitment to a residential care  
19 facility.

20        (d) The hearing on the application may be held on the same  
21 date as a hearing on an application for commitment to a residential  
22 care facility under Subchapter C, Chapter 593, but the hearing must  
23 be held not later than 30 days after the filing of the application  
24 for the order to authorize psychoactive medication. If the hearing  
25 is not held on the same date as the application for commitment to a  
26 residential care facility under Subchapter C, Chapter 593, and the  
27 client is transferred to a residential care facility in another

1 county, the court may transfer the application for an order to  
2 authorize psychoactive medication to the county where the client  
3 has been transferred.

4 (e) Subject to the requirement in Subsection (d) that the  
5 hearing shall be held not later than 30 days after the filing of the  
6 application, the court may grant one continuance on a party's  
7 motion and for good cause shown. The court may grant more than one  
8 continuance only with the agreement of the parties.

9 Sec. 592.155. RIGHTS OF CLIENT. A client for whom an  
10 application for an order to authorize the administration of a  
11 psychoactive medication is filed is entitled:

12 (1) to be represented by a court-appointed attorney  
13 who is knowledgeable about issues to be adjudicated at the hearing;

14 (2) to meet with that attorney as soon as is  
15 practicable to prepare for the hearing and to discuss any of the  
16 client's questions or concerns;

17 (3) to receive, immediately after the time of the  
18 hearing is set, a copy of the application and written notice of the  
19 time, place, and date of the hearing;

20 (4) to be informed, at the time personal notice of the  
21 hearing is given, of the client's right to a hearing and right to  
22 the assistance of an attorney to prepare for the hearing and to  
23 answer any questions or concerns;

24 (5) to be present at the hearing;

25 (6) to request from the court an independent expert;

26 and

27 (7) to be notified orally, at the conclusion of the



1 hearing, of the court's determinations of the client's capacity and  
2 best interest.

3 Sec. 592.156. HEARING AND ORDER AUTHORIZING PSYCHOACTIVE  
4 MEDICATION. (a) The court may issue an order authorizing the  
5 administration of one or more classes of psychoactive medication to  
6 a client who:

7 (1) has been committed to a residential care facility;  
8 or

9 (2) is in custody awaiting trial in a criminal  
10 proceeding and was committed to a residential care facility in the  
11 six months preceding a hearing under this section.

12 (b) The court may issue an order under this section only if  
13 the court finds by clear and convincing evidence after the hearing:

14 (1) that the client lacks the capacity to make a  
15 decision regarding the administration of the proposed medication  
16 and that treatment with the proposed medication is in the best  
17 interest of the client; or

18 (2) if the client was committed to a residential care  
19 facility by a criminal court with jurisdiction over the client,  
20 that treatment with the proposed medication is in the best interest  
21 of the client, and either:

22 (A) the client presents a danger to the client or  
23 others in the residential care facility in which the client is being  
24 treated as a result of a mental disorder or mental defect as  
25 determined under Section 592.157; or

26 (B) the client:

27 (i) has remained confined in a correctional

1 facility, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code, for a period  
2 exceeding 72 hours while awaiting transfer for competency  
3 restoration treatment; and

4 (ii) presents a danger to the client or  
5 others in the correctional facility as a result of a mental disorder  
6 or mental defect as determined under Section 592.157.

7 (c) In making the finding that treatment with the proposed  
8 medication is in the best interest of the client, the court shall  
9 consider:

10 (1) the client's expressed preferences regarding  
11 treatment with psychoactive medication;

12 (2) the client's religious beliefs;

13 (3) the risks and benefits, from the perspective of  
14 the client, of taking psychoactive medication;

15 (4) the consequences to the client if the psychoactive  
16 medication is not administered;

17 (5) the prognosis for the client if the client is  
18 treated with psychoactive medication;

19 (6) alternative, less intrusive treatments that are  
20 likely to produce the same results as treatment with psychoactive  
21 medication; and

22 (7) less intrusive treatments likely to secure the  
23 client's consent to take the psychoactive medication.

24 (d) A hearing under this subchapter shall be conducted on  
25 the record by the probate judge or judge with probate jurisdiction,  
26 except as provided by Subsection (e).

27 (e) A judge may refer a hearing to a magistrate or

1 court-appointed associate judge who has training regarding  
2 psychoactive medications. The magistrate or associate judge may  
3 effectuate the notice, set hearing dates, and appoint attorneys as  
4 required by this subchapter. A record is not required if the  
5 hearing is held by a magistrate or court-appointed associate judge.

6 (f) A party is entitled to a hearing de novo by the judge if  
7 an appeal of the magistrate's or associate judge's report is filed  
8 with the court before the fourth day after the date the report is  
9 issued. The hearing de novo shall be held not later than the 30th  
10 day after the date the application for an order to authorize  
11 psychoactive medication was filed.

12 (g) If a hearing or an appeal of an associate judge's or  
13 magistrate's report is to be held in a county court in which the  
14 judge is not a licensed attorney, the proposed client or the  
15 proposed client's attorney may request that the proceeding be  
16 transferred to a court with a judge who is licensed to practice law  
17 in this state. The county judge shall transfer the case after  
18 receiving the request, and the receiving court shall hear the case  
19 as if it had been originally filed in that court.

20 (h) As soon as practicable after the conclusion of the  
21 hearing, the client is entitled to have provided to the client and  
22 the client's attorney written notification of the court's  
23 determinations under this section. The notification shall include  
24 a statement of the evidence on which the court relied and the  
25 reasons for the court's determinations.

26 (i) An order entered under this section shall authorize the  
27 administration to a client, regardless of the client's refusal, of

1 one or more classes of psychoactive medications specified in the  
2 application and consistent with the client's diagnosis. The order  
3 shall permit an increase or decrease in a medication's dosage,  
4 restitution of medication authorized but discontinued during the  
5 period the order is valid, or the substitution of a medication  
6 within the same class.

7 (j) The classes of psychoactive medications in the order  
8 must conform to classes determined by the department.

9 (k) An order issued under this section may be reauthorized  
10 or modified on the petition of a party. The order remains in effect  
11 pending action on a petition for reauthorization or modification.  
12 For the purpose of this subsection, "modification" means a change  
13 of a class of medication authorized in the order.

14 (l) For a client described by Subsection (b)(2)(B), an order  
15 issued under this section:

16 (1) authorizes the initiation of any appropriate  
17 mental health treatment for the patient awaiting transfer; and

18 (2) does not constitute authorization to retain the  
19 client in a correctional facility for competency restoration  
20 treatment.

21 Sec. 592.157. FINDING THAT CLIENT PRESENTS A DANGER. In  
22 making a finding under Section 592.156(b)(2) that, as a result of a  
23 mental disorder or mental defect, the client presents a danger to  
24 the client or others in the residential care facility in which the  
25 client is being treated or in the correctional facility, as  
26 applicable, the court shall consider:

27 (1) an assessment of the client's present mental

1 condition; and

2 (2) whether the client has inflicted, attempted to  
3 inflict, or made a serious threat of inflicting substantial  
4 physical harm to the client's self or to another while in the  
5 facility.

6 Sec. 592.158. APPEAL. (a) A client may appeal an order  
7 under this subchapter in the manner provided by Section 593.056 for  
8 an appeal of an order committing the client to a residential care  
9 facility.

10 (b) An order authorizing the administration of medication  
11 regardless of the refusal of the client is effective pending an  
12 appeal of the order.

13 Sec. 592.159. EFFECT OF ORDER. (a) A person's consent to  
14 take a psychoactive medication is not valid and may not be relied on  
15 if the person is subject to an order issued under Section 592.156.

16 (b) The issuance of an order under Section 592.156 is not a  
17 determination or adjudication of mental incompetency and does not  
18 limit in any other respect that person's rights as a citizen or the  
19 person's property rights or legal capacity.

20 Sec. 592.160. EXPIRATION OF ORDER. (a) Except as provided  
21 by Subsection (b), an order issued under Section 592.156 expires on  
22 the anniversary of the date the order was issued.

23 (b) An order issued under Section 592.156 for a client  
24 awaiting trial in a criminal proceeding expires on the date the  
25 defendant is acquitted, is convicted, or enters a plea of guilty or  
26 the date on which charges in the case are dismissed. An order  
27 continued under this subsection shall be reviewed by the issuing

1 court every six months.

2 SECTION 4. Articles 46B.086(a) and (b), Code of Criminal  
3 Procedure, are amended to read as follows:

4 (a) This article applies only to a defendant:

5 (1) who is determined under this chapter to be  
6 incompetent to stand trial;

7 (2) who either:

8 (A) remains confined in a correctional facility,  
9 as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code, for a period exceeding 72  
10 hours while awaiting transfer to an inpatient mental health  
11 facility, a residential care facility, or an outpatient treatment  
12 program;

13 (B) is committed to an inpatient mental health  
14 facility or a residential care facility for the purpose of  
15 competency restoration;

16 (C) is confined in a correctional facility while  
17 awaiting further criminal proceedings following competency  
18 restoration treatment; or

19 (D) is subject to Article 46B.072, if the court  
20 has made the determinations required by Subsection (a-1) of that  
21 article;

22 (3) for whom a correctional facility that employs or  
23 contracts with a licensed psychiatrist, an inpatient mental health  
24 facility, a residential care facility, or an outpatient treatment  
25 program provider has prepared a continuity of care plan that  
26 requires the defendant to take psychoactive medications; and

27 (4) who, after a hearing held under Section 574.106 or

1 592.156, Health and Safety Code, if applicable, has been found to  
2 not meet the criteria prescribed by Sections 574.106(a) and (a-1)  
3 or 592.156(a) and (b), Health and Safety Code, for court-ordered  
4 administration of psychoactive medications.

5 (b) If a defendant described by Subsection (a) refuses to  
6 take psychoactive medications as required by the defendant's  
7 continuity of care plan, the director of the correctional facility  
8 or outpatient treatment program provider, as applicable, shall  
9 notify the court in which the criminal proceedings are pending of  
10 that fact not later than the end of the next business day following  
11 the refusal. The court shall promptly notify the attorney  
12 representing the state and the attorney representing the defendant  
13 of the defendant's refusal. The attorney representing the state  
14 may file a written motion to compel medication. The motion to  
15 compel medication must be filed not later than the 15th day after  
16 the date a judge issues an order stating that the defendant does not  
17 meet the criteria for court-ordered administration of psychoactive  
18 medications under Section 574.106 or 592.156, Health and Safety  
19 Code, except that, for a defendant in an outpatient treatment  
20 program, the motion may be filed at any time.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.