

House Bill 1023
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE SHORTAGE. (a) Not later than October 1, 2013, the Health and Human Services Commission, or a health and human services agency designated by the commission, shall establish a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding mental health workforce shortages in this state.

(b) The task force shall investigate the existence, severity, and causes of mental health workforce shortages in this state. The investigation must specifically identify:

- (1) the types of providers for which shortages exist, including types such as licensed professionals, certified peer specialists, and direct care staff;
- (2) the types of licensed professionals, specialists, or staff for which shortages exist;
- (3) the locations or regions in this state in which shortages exist and in which extraordinary shortages exist;
- (4) the effect the shortages have on the ability of persons with mental illness to receive services in this state and in those locations or regions identified under Subdivision (3) of this subsection; and
- (5) the economic and societal effect the shortages have in this state and in those locations or regions identified under Subdivision (3) of this subsection.

SECTION 2. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. Not later than December 1, 2014, the Health and Human Services Commission, or the health and human services agency designated by the commission under Section 1 of this Act, shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the

SENATE VERSION (CS)

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

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appropriate standing committees of the legislature that includes:

- (1) the results of the task force's investigation; and
- (2) recommended means to alleviate identified mental health workforce shortages.

No equivalent provision.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 1. RECOMMENDATIONS ON MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE SHORTAGE. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission, or a health and human services agency designated by the commission, shall use existing information and data available through the commission, the Department of State Health Services, the statewide health coordinating council, and nongovernmental entities with expertise in mental health workforce issues to make recommendations regarding mental health workforce shortages in this state.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2014, the Health and Human Services Commission, or the health and human services agency designated by the commission, shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature that includes:

- (1) specific recommendations to alleviate mental health workforce shortages in this state;
 - (2) an assessment of the feasibility of implementing each recommendation;
 - (3) the estimated costs and benefits of each recommendation;
- and
- (4) the specific legislative action, if any, needed to implement each recommendation.

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SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE