

AN ACT

relating to mental health first aid training for veterans and immediate family members of veterans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 434.352(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) For the mental health program for veterans, the commission shall:

(1) provide training to peer service coordinators and peers in accordance with Section 434.353;

(2) provide technical assistance to peer service coordinators and peers;

(3) identify, train, and communicate with community-based licensed mental health professionals, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations; ~~and~~

(4) coordinate services for justice involved veterans; and

(5) coordinate local delivery to veterans and immediate family members of veterans of mental health first aid for veterans training.

SECTION 2. Section 1001.205, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1001.205. REPORTS. (a) Not later than September 30 of

1 each year, a local mental health authority shall provide to the
2 department the number of:

3 (1) employees and contractors of the authority who
4 were trained as mental health first aid trainers under Section
5 1001.202 during the preceding fiscal year;

6 (2) university employees, school district employees,
7 and school resource officers who completed a mental health first
8 aid training program offered by the authority under Section
9 1001.203 during the preceding fiscal year; ~~and~~

10 (3) individuals who are not university employees,
11 school district employees, or school resource officers who
12 completed a mental health first aid training program offered by the
13 authority during the preceding fiscal year; and

14 (4) veterans and immediate family members of veterans
15 who completed the veterans module of a mental health first aid
16 training program offered by the authority during the preceding
17 fiscal year.

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

22 (1) authority employees and contractors trained as
23 mental health first aid trainers during the preceding fiscal year;

24 (2) university employees, school district employees,
25 and school resource officers who completed a mental health first
26 aid training program provided by an authority during the preceding
27 fiscal year; ~~and~~

1 (3) individuals who are not university employees,
2 school district employees, or school resource officers who
3 completed a mental health first aid training program provided by an
4 authority during the preceding fiscal year; and

5 (4) veterans and immediate family members of veterans
6 who completed the veterans module of a mental health first aid
7 training program provided by an authority during the preceding
8 fiscal year.

9 SECTION 3. Section 1001.222(a), Health and Safety Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The department shall develop a mental health
12 intervention program for veterans. The program must include:

13 (1) peer-to-peer counseling;

14 (2) access to licensed mental health professionals for
15 peer service coordinators and peers;

16 (3) training approved by the department for peer
17 service coordinators, licensed mental health professionals, and
18 peers;

19 (4) technical assistance for peer service
20 coordinators, licensed mental health professionals, and peers;

21 (5) identification, retention, and screening of
22 community-based licensed mental health professionals;

23 (6) suicide prevention training for peer service
24 coordinators and peers; ~~and~~

25 (7) veteran jail diversion services, including
26 veterans treatment courts; and

27 (8) coordination of mental health first aid for

1 veterans training to veterans and immediate family members of
2 veterans.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4429 was passed by the House on April 30, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 4429 on May 24, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4429 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor