

By: Meza

H.B. No. 2517

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to suicide prevention in municipal jails and lockups.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 511, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 511.022 to read as follows:

Sec. 511.022. SUICIDE PREVENTION IN MUNICIPAL JAIL OR LOCKUP. (a) The commission shall require each municipal jail or lockup to:

(1) provide two hours of training to each jailer or person responsible for the supervision of a person confined in the jail or lockup on the procedures for identifying, documenting, and handling a person who is potentially suicidal or has a mental health condition;

(2) conduct and document mental health screenings during the intake process;

(3) house in a cell with cameras any person that is identified as potentially suicidal or who discloses a previous diagnosis for a mental health condition;

(4) regularly check on each person described by Subdivision (3); and

(5) report to the commission, in the manner prescribed by the commission, any incident involving the suicide or attempted suicide of a person confined in the jail or lockup not later than 48 hours after the incident.

1        (b) The commission may use the information reported under  
2 Subsection (a)(5) only for purposes of data collection and  
3 analysis.

4        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.