

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to mental health services development plans as updated by the Health and Human Services Commission and local mental health authority groups.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0222 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0222. LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY GROUP REGIONAL PLANNING. (a) In this section, "local mental health authority group" means a group of local mental health authorities established by the commission under Chapter 963 (S.B. 633), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019.

(b) The commission shall require each local mental health authority group to meet at least quarterly to collaborate on planning and implementing regional strategies to reduce:

(1) costs to local governments of providing services to persons experiencing a mental health crisis;

(2) transportation to mental health facilities of persons served by an authority that is a member of the group;

(3) incarceration of persons with mental illness in county jails that are located in an area served by an authority that is a member of the group; and

(4) visits by persons with mental illness at hospital emergency rooms located in an area served by an authority that is a

1 member of the group.

2 (c) The commission shall use federal funds in accordance
3 with state and federal guidelines to implement this section.

4 (d) The commission, in coordination with each local mental
5 health authority group, shall annually update the mental health
6 services development plan that was initially developed by the
7 commission and each local mental health authority group under
8 Chapter 963 (S.B. 633), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular
9 Session, 2019. The commission and each group's updated plan must
10 include a description of:

11 (1) actions taken by the group to implement regional
12 strategies in the plan; and

13 (2) new regional strategies identified by the group to
14 reduce the circumstances described by Subsection (b), including the
15 estimated number of outpatient and inpatient beds necessary to meet
16 the goals of each group's regional strategy.

17 (e) Not later than December 1 of each year, the commission
18 shall produce and publish on its Internet website a report
19 containing the most recent version of each mental health services
20 development plan developed by the commission and a local mental
21 health authority group.

22 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding Section 531.0222, Government
23 Code, as added by this Act, a local mental health authority group
24 and the Health and Human Services Commission are not required to
25 produce or publish a report required by that section before
26 December 1, 2022.

27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
5 legislative session.