

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 3125

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COUNTY AFFAIRS

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Hearing Date: April 8, 2021 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

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Jaime Estrada, Dr.

Texas Doctors for Social Responsibility

San Antonio, Texas, 78230, TX

Our organization supports HB 3125 by Rep. Allison because it's unfair to charge patients or their families for costs related to mental health hearings or proceedings by the County.

Christine Bryan, VP, Information Technology and Public Policy

Clarity Child Guidance Center

San Antonio, TX

Clarity Child Guidance Center is in full support of HB 3125. Clarity is a non-profit providing inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services to children ages 3-17. Clarity's patient census is comprised of 70% low-income, state-supported children through Medicaid, CHIP, STARHealth, STARKids and low-cost contracts with area local mental health authorities.

Clarity is aware of the hardship that the fees associated with court costs can be on a facility providing mental health services. As Texas is striving to remove barriers to access to care for the mentally ill, we do not want to add further burden to the hospitals that can offer timely treatment, especially to this very vulnerable population requiring court intervention. We look forward to having continued conversations on how best these costs can be handled without creating undue financial obligation on the receiving facility or the patient. On behalf of our kids and families, we ask you please support HB 3125.