

By: Garcia, Frank, Lopez of Bexar, Bumgarner,
Dorazio

H.B. No. 4972

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 4972:

By: Wilson

C.S.H.B. No. 4972

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study on mental health services provided to veterans
3 through the Texas Veterans Commission.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, the "commission" means the
6 Texas Veterans Commission.

7 (b) The commission, in collaboration with the Health and
8 Human Services Commission, shall conduct a study to evaluate
9 strategies to improve and expand mental health services provided
10 through the commission's Military Veteran Peer Network. The study
11 must include recommendations on expanding the number of certified
12 peer service coordinators who provide mental health services to
13 service members, veterans, and family members of service members or
14 veterans.

15 (c) The study required by this section must focus on the
16 provision of certified peer service coordinators in rural
17 communities in this state.

18 (d) Not later than December 1, 2024, the commission shall
19 prepare and submit a report to the legislature containing the
20 findings of the study and any recommendations for legislative or
21 other action.

22 SECTION 2. This Act expires September 1, 2025.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.