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S.B. No. 2069

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a work group to conduct a study on the feasibility of implementing an acute psychiatric bed registry.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section:

(1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services Commission.

(2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the commission.

(3) "Inpatient mental health facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 571.003, Health and Safety Code.

(b) The commission shall establish a work group to conduct a study on the feasibility of implementing a statewide or regional acute psychiatric bed registry to list available beds at inpatient mental health facilities for the inpatient psychiatric treatment of certain individuals.

(c) The work group consists of the following members appointed by the executive commissioner:

(1) the chair of the Texas Hospital Association or the chair's designee;

(2) the president of the Texas Medical Association or the president's designee;

(3) the president of the Texas Nurses Association or the president's designee;

1 (4) two members who are experts in the field of
2 technology;

3 (5) one member who is a licensed psychiatrist;

4 (6) one member who is a licensed professional
5 counselor, as defined by Section 503.002, Occupations Code;

6 (7) one member who works in a substance use treatment
7 facility;

8 (8) one member who is a representative of a hospital
9 located in a rural area of this state;

10 (9) one member who is a representative of a hospital
11 located in a county with a population of four million or more;

12 (10) one member who is a representative of a hospital
13 located in an urban area of this state in a county with a population
14 of less than four million;

15 (11) one member who is a representative of a public
16 hospital;

17 (12) one member who is a representative of a private
18 hospital;

19 (13) one member who is a statistician;

20 (14) one member who is a public health expert; and

21 (15) any other member with appropriate expertise as
22 the executive commissioner determines necessary.

23 (d) The work group shall elect from among the membership a
24 presiding officer.

25 (e) The work group shall meet periodically and at the call
26 of the presiding officer.

27 (f) Not later than November 1, 2027, the commission shall

1 prepare and submit to each standing committee of the senate and
2 house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over mental
3 health a written report that summarizes the results of the study
4 conducted under this section. The report must:

5 (1) evaluate the effect of bed registries;

6 (2) include recommendations for increasing public
7 awareness of bed registries;

8 (3) include recommendations for leveraging financial
9 incentives and legislative, regulatory, or contractual mechanisms
10 to expedite the entry of data for bed registries;

11 (4) assess the effect of hospital reimbursements in
12 increasing bed availability;

13 (5) evaluate psychiatric treatment capacity in
14 relation to bed availability; and

15 (6) include any other information the commission
16 considers necessary.

17 (g) The work group is abolished and this section expires
18 November 1, 2028.

19 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
20 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
21 Services Commission shall appoint the members to the work group
22 established by this Act.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.