

By: Zaffirini

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 unless otherwise provided:

(1) one member with appropriate expertise appointed by the governor;

(2) two members with appropriate expertise appointed by the lieutenant governor;

(3) two members with appropriate expertise appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

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

3 (5) the president of the Texas Medical Association or
4 the president's designee;

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

7 (7) two members who are experts in the field of
8 technology;

9 (8) one member who is a licensed psychiatrist;

10 (9) one member who is a licensed professional
11 counselor, as defined by Section 503.002, Occupations Code;

12 (10) one member who works in a substance use treatment
13 facility;

14 (11) one member who is a representative of a hospital
15 located in a rural area of this state;

16 (12) one member who is a representative of a hospital
17 located in a county with a population of four million or more;

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

21 (14) one member who is a representative of a public
22 hospital;

23 (15) one member who is a representative of a private
24 hospital;

25 (16) one member who is a statistician;

26 (17) one member who is a public health expert; and

27 (18) any other member with appropriate expertise as

1 the executive commissioner determines necessary.

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

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

6 (f) Not later than September 1, 2026, the commission shall
7 prepare and submit to each standing committee of the senate and
8 house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over mental
9 health a written report that summarizes the results of the study
10 conducted under this section. The report must:

11 (1) evaluate the effect of bed registries;

12 (2) include recommendations for increasing public
13 awareness of bed registries;

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

17 (4) assess the effect of hospital reimbursements in
18 increasing bed availability;

19 (5) evaluate psychiatric treatment capacity in
20 relation to bed availability; and

21 (6) include any other information the commission
22 considers necessary.

23 (g) The work group is abolished and this section expires
24 September 1, 2027.

25 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
26 of this Act, the applicable appointing authorities shall appoint
27 the members to the work group established by this Act.

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