

MENTAL HEALTH BILLS PASSED

HB 197	Price, Four(R) Nelson, Jane(R)	Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to post information regarding mental health resources on the institution's Internet website.
	Remarks:	Requires each public college website to show mental health resources including the address of the nearest Local Mental Health Authority.
	Bill History:	09-01-15 G Earliest effective date
HB 2186	Cook, Byron(R) Campbell, Donna(R)	Relating to suicide prevention training for certain educators and other employees of a school district.
	Remarks:	Requires educators outside of special education programs to be trained in suicide prevention annually, rather than only once.
	Bill History:	06-19-15 G Earliest effective date
HB 2216	Coleman, Garnet(D) Kolkhorst, Lois (F)(R)	Relating to information required of an applicant for a driver's license.
	Remarks:	Prohibits asking about a diagnosis of mental illness or psychiatric disorder on driver's license application.
	Bill History:	09-01-15 G Earliest effective date
SB 125	West, Royce(D) Naishtat, Elliott(D)	Relating to certain assessments for children in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services.
	Remarks:	Requires developmental psycho-social & trauma assessment of child who enters conservatorship.
	Bill History:	09-01-15 G Earliest effective date
SB 133	Schwertner, Charles(R) Coleman, Garnet(D)	Relating to mental health first aid training for school district employees and school resource officers.
	Remarks:	Expands the list of school employees who can receive free training in mental health first aid training from local mental health authorities. Requires DSHS to annually report the numbers of educators, other school district employees, and others who received training.
	Bill History:	06-17-15 G Earliest effective date

SB 202	Nelson, Jane(R) Price, Four(R)	Relating to the Department of State Health Services, the provision of health services in this state, and the regulation of certain health-related occupations and activities.
	Remarks:	Requires development of training for judges and attorneys on alternatives to inpatient commitment to a state hospital for court ordered services.
	Bill History:	09-01-15 G Earliest effective date

SB 239	Schwertner, Charles(R) Zerwas, John(R)	Relating to student loan repayment assistance for certain mental health professionals.
	Remarks:	Establishes a loan repayment assistance for physician, advanced practice nurse, and clinical social work students who complete up to five years practice with the Texas Department of State Health Services.
	Bill History:	09-01-15 G Earliest effective date

SB 1129	Zaffirini, Judith(D) Raymond, Richard(D)	Relating to the transportation of a person with a mental illness.
	Remarks:	Limits restraint during transport, detention, and apprehension to only methods that allow a person to sit upright, unless in an ambulance.
	Bill History:	06-17-15 G Earliest effective date

MENTAL HEALTH BILLS NOT PASSED

HB 838	Naishtat, Elliott(D)	Relating to the definition of serious mental illness for purposes of certain group health benefit plans.
	Remarks:	Would have added post traumatic stress to Insurance Code's definition of serious mental illness.
	Bill History:	05-20-15 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Business and Commerce

HB 1393	Turner, Sylvester(D)	Relating to the establishment of a home and community-based services program under the Medicaid program for certain persons with severe and persistent mental illness.
	Remarks:	Would have established an HCBS Medicaid waiver for people with severe and persistent mental illness.
	Bill History:	05-05-15 H Sent to the Calendars Committee

HB 1873	Naishtat, Elliott(D)	Relating to a pilot project to evaluate the use of self-directed mental health services in the integrated Medicaid managed care system.
	Remarks:	Would have established a four year pilot for voluntary self-directed mental health services in integrated Medicaid managed care for those receiving rehabilitative services from a local mental health authority. The pilot would include a life coach providing supports similar to supported decision-making.
	Bill History:	04-13-15 H Committee action pending House Human Services

SB 359	West, Royce(D) Workman, Paul(R)	Relating to the authority of a peace officer to apprehend a person for emergency detention and the authority of certain facilities to temporarily detain a person with mental illness.
	Remarks:	Would have allowed freestanding emergency room to detain a person who asked for help for mental illness; allowed police to take them into custody without a judge's order. Governor vetoed, stating it could "lay the groundwork for further erosion of constitutional liberties."
	Bill History:	06-01-15 G Vetoed by the Governor

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