

CHAPTER 75

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FACILITIES — CRISIS STABILIZATION PROGRAMS — PSYCHIATRIC BED TRACKING SYSTEM

H.F. 449

AN ACT relating to mental health crisis facilities.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 225C.19A, Code 2015, is amended to read as follows:

225C.19A Crisis stabilization programs.

The department shall accredit, certify, or apply standards of review to authorize the operation of crisis stabilization programs including crisis stabilization programs operating in a psychiatric medical institution for children pursuant to chapter 135H that provide children with mental health, substance abuse, and co-occurring mental health and substance abuse services. In authorizing the operation of a crisis stabilization program, the department shall apply the relevant requirements for an emergency mental health crisis services provider and system under section 225C.19. A program authorized to operate under this section is not required to be licensed under chapter 135B, 135C, or 135G, or certified under chapter 231C. The commission shall adopt rules to implement this section. The department shall accept accreditation of a crisis stabilization program by a national accrediting organization in lieu of applying the rules adopted in accordance with this section to the program.

Sec. 2. PSYCHIATRIC BED TRACKING SYSTEM — DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. The department of human services shall expend the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, to be used for the development and initial implementation of a psychiatric bed tracking system, including psychiatric beds in a subacute care facility, in accordance with this section.

1. In developing the requirements for procurement of the system, the department of human services shall engage the group of magistrates and hospital personnel that assisted the department in developing the hospital bed tracking system report submitted to the general assembly in December 2013, pursuant to [2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 130, section 56](#). The department shall also engage other interested representatives, including representatives of the regional mental health and disability services system, the state mental health institutes, a nonprofit agency licensed under chapter 135H, the Iowa behavioral health association, the Iowa state sheriffs' and deputies' association, the Iowa hospital association, the Iowa psychiatric society, and the Iowa association of community providers. The procedural issues addressed by the group shall include but are not limited to the responsibility for data entry and verification, timeliness of data entry, confidentiality requirements associated with the data needed to ensure the usefulness of the system, and key characteristics and capacity information about the beds in the system.

2. The department shall base the procurement requirements on the recommendation option contained in the December 2013 report that projected the lowest annual maintenance and operating costs rather than the other option.

3. The goal of the psychiatric bed tracking system is to provide for the reservation of psychiatric beds for patients being transported to a facility with a vacant bed; however, reservation of a bed through the psychiatric bed tracking system shall be consistent with state and federal laws, shall be held for a period of at least twelve hours, and shall be communicated to the receiving facility and approved by the receiving facility. In addition, it is the goal of the psychiatric bed tracking system that the psychiatric bed tracking system be utilized by clerks of the district courts, hospital personnel, and other appropriate entities as determined by the department of human services.

Approved April 24, 2015