

House File 613 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY FORD

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the establishment and administration of
2 mental health court pilot projects.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 1490YH 82
5 rh/es/88

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1 1 Section 1. MENTAL HEALTH COURT PILOT PROJECTS. The
1 2 judicial branch shall establish and administer a mental health
1 3 court pilot project for nonviolent criminal offenders who
1 4 suffer from mental illness or substance abuse in a county with
1 5 a population of up to fifty thousand, in a county with a
1 6 population of more than fifty thousand but not more than one
1 7 hundred thousand, and in a county with a population of more
1 8 than one hundred thousand. The mental health court pilot
1 9 projects shall be established for a three-year period
1 10 beginning January 1, 2008. The judicial branch shall consult
1 11 with an advisory committee which includes members representing
1 12 the criminal justice system including but not limited to
1 13 judges, prosecutors, and defense counsel; members representing
1 14 the mental health community; and members representing the
1 15 pilot project counties. The judicial branch and the pilot
1 16 project counties shall report to the general assembly on the
1 17 operation of the projects annually by December 15.

1 18 EXPLANATION

1 19 This bill directs the judicial branch, in consultation with
1 20 an advisory committee consisting of members of the criminal
1 21 justice system, the mental health community, and the pilot
1 22 project counties, to establish and administer mental health
1 23 court pilot projects for nonviolent criminal offenders who
1 24 suffer from mental illness in three counties: one county with
1 25 a population of up to 50,000, one county with more than 50,000
1 26 up to 100,000, and one county with more than 100,000. The
1 27 mental health court pilot projects shall be established for a
1 28 three-year period beginning January 1, 2007.
1 29 LSB 1490YH 82
1 30 rh:nh/es/88.1