

House File 449 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 449
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 263)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the development and initial implementation
2 of an inpatient psychiatric bed tracking system by the
3 department of human services.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC BED TRACKING SYSTEM —
2 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. The department of human services
3 shall expend the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or so
4 much thereof as is necessary, for the fiscal year beginning
5 July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, to be used for the
6 development and initial implementation of an inpatient
7 psychiatric bed tracking system in accordance with this
8 section.

9 1. In developing the requirements for procurement of the
10 system, the department of human services shall engage the
11 group of magistrates and hospital personnel that assisted the
12 department in developing the hospital bed tracking system
13 report submitted to the general assembly in December 2013,
14 pursuant to 2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 130, section 56. The
15 department shall also engage other interested representatives,
16 including representatives of the regional mental health and
17 disability services system, the state mental health institutes,
18 the Iowa behavioral health association, the Iowa state
19 sheriffs' and deputies' association, and the Iowa association
20 of community providers. The procedural issues addressed by the
21 group shall include but are not limited to the responsibility
22 for data entry and verification, timeliness of data entry,
23 confidentiality requirements associated with the data needed to
24 ensure the usefulness of the system, and key characteristics
25 and capacity information about the beds in the system.

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

30 3. Upon a court-ordered mental health commitment, the
31 clerk of the district court shall utilize the electronic
32 tracking system, once in place, to enter information into the
33 system relating to the court order, check the database for
34 the availability of open inpatient psychiatric hospital beds,
35 and, if available, reserve the inpatient psychiatric hospital

1 bed in the facility or institution to which a patient who is
2 the subject of the mental health commitment order should be
3 assigned. Once reserved, the bed cannot be assigned to any
4 other person.

5

EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7

8 This bill relates to the development and initial
9 implementation of an inpatient psychiatric bed tracking system.
10 The bill directs the department of human services to expend
11 \$200,000 for fiscal year 2015-2016 for the development and
12 initial implementation of an inpatient psychiatric bed tracking
13 system. In developing the requirements for procurement of
14 the system, the department is required to engage the group
15 of magistrates and hospital personnel that assisted the
16 department in developing the hospital bed tracking system
17 report submitted to the general assembly in December 2013 (2013
18 Iowa Acts, chapter 130, section 56) along with representatives
19 of the regional mental health and disability services system,
20 the state mental health institutes, the Iowa behavioral
21 health association, the Iowa state sheriffs' and deputies'
22 association, and the Iowa association of community providers.
23 The procedural issues addressed by the group shall include
24 but are not limited to the responsibility for data entry
25 and verification, timeliness of data entry, confidentiality
26 requirements, and key characteristics and capacity information
27 about the beds in the system.
28 The bill provides that upon a court-ordered mental health
29 commitment, the clerk of the district court shall utilize the
30 electronic tracking system, once in place, to enter information
31 into the system relating to the court order, check the database
32 for the availability of open inpatient psychiatric hospital
33 beds, and, if available, reserve the inpatient psychiatric
34 hospital bed in the facility or institution to which a patient
35 who is the subject of the mental health commitment order should

1 be assigned. Once reserved, the bed cannot be assigned to any
2 other person.