

House File 705 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 705

BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 458)

(COMPANION TO SF 343 BY WESTRICH)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act establishing a grant program for a nonprofit organization
- 2 providing sexual assault forensic examination centers.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **915.47 Sexual assault forensic**
2 **examination center grant program.**

3 1. The terms defined in section 915.46 shall have the same
4 meaning when used in this section.

5 2. A sexual assault forensic examination center grant program
6 is established in the department of justice. The attorney
7 general shall contract with an eligible nonprofit organization to
8 operate and maintain sexual assault forensic examination centers
9 in this state. The contract may be terminated by the attorney
10 general after a hearing upon written notice and for good cause.

11 3. A nonprofit organization must comply with all of the
12 following to be eligible for a contract under this section:

13 a. Be a nonprofit organization incorporated in this state
14 pursuant to chapter 504.

15 b. Employ or otherwise retain services from sexual assault
16 nurse examiners.

17 c. Maintain, or be in the process of establishing, one or
18 more treatment facilities in this state that are primarily
19 dedicated to providing a diverse range of services to sexual
20 assault survivors, including but not limited to medical forensic
21 services.

22 d. Provide services for sexual assault survivors, including
23 providing sexual assault care and related trainings, as the
24 overall primary purpose of the organization.

25 4. The contracting nonprofit organization shall do all of the
26 following:

27 a. Provide services, including medical forensic services, to
28 sexual assault survivors including adults, children, persons with
29 disabilities, rural Iowans, and other underserved populations.

30 b. Provide or facilitate trainings to medical practitioners
31 regarding the provision of medical forensic services to sexual
32 assault survivors.

33 c. Provide or facilitate trainings to law enforcement
34 officers and prosecuting attorneys regarding sexual assault
35 services.

1 d. Provide or facilitate trainings to members of the public
2 regarding sexual assault services and sexual assault prevention.

3 e. Provide a cooperative team approach regarding sexual
4 assault services, deliver holistic accessible services to sexual
5 assault survivors, and establish an approach that emphasizes the
6 best interests of the sexual assault survivor and that provides
7 investigation, assessment, and rehabilitative services.

8 f. Involve or consult with persons from various professional
9 disciplines who have training and expertise in addressing special
10 types of sexual assault as necessary to address serious cases
11 of sexual assault such as those involving intimate partner
12 violence, dating violence, domestic violence, incest, human
13 trafficking, and drug-facilitated sexual assault. These persons
14 may include but are not limited to physicians and other health
15 care professionals, law enforcement, mental health professionals,
16 social workers, child protection workers, attorneys, juvenile
17 court officers, public health workers, educators, and advocates.

18 g. Submit an annual report to the attorney general describing
19 the services and trainings that have been provided.

20 5. The requirements in subsection 4 are not intended
21 to restrict or otherwise limit the contracting nonprofit
22 organization from seeking funding or reimbursement from other
23 sources including but not limited to charging for attendance
24 at trainings. The contract shall provide general funding as
25 reimbursement toward the contracting nonprofit organization's
26 overall operating expenditures.

27 6. The contracting nonprofit organization is not a state
28 agency for the purposes of chapter 8A, subchapter IV, or chapter
29 20 or 669.

30 EXPLANATION

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

33 This bill establishes a grant program in the department of
34 justice for a nonprofit organization providing sexual assault
35 forensic examination centers.

1 The bill requires that the attorney general contract with an
2 eligible nonprofit organization to operate and maintain sexual
3 assault forensic examination centers in the state. The contract
4 may be terminated by the attorney general after a hearing upon
5 written notice and for good cause.

6 The bill provides that a nonprofit organization must comply
7 with all of the following to be eligible for a contract under
8 this section: be a nonprofit organization incorporated in
9 the state; employ or otherwise retain services from sexual
10 assault nurse examiners; and maintain, or be in the process of
11 establishing, one or more treatment facilities in the state that
12 are primarily dedicated to providing a diverse range of services
13 to sexual assault survivors, including but not limited to medical
14 forensic services; provide services for sexual assault survivors,
15 including providing sexual assault care and related trainings, as
16 the overall primary purpose of the organization.

17 The bill provides that a contracting nonprofit organization
18 shall: provide services, including medical forensic services, to
19 sexual assault survivors including adults, children, persons with
20 disabilities, rural Iowans, and other underserved populations;
21 provide or facilitate trainings to medical practitioners
22 regarding the provision of medical forensic services; provide
23 or facilitate trainings to law enforcement officers and
24 prosecuting attorneys regarding sexual assault services; provide
25 or facilitate trainings to members of the public regarding
26 sexual assault services and sexual assault prevention; provide a
27 cooperative team approach regarding sexual assault services and
28 establish an approach that emphasizes the best interests of the
29 sexual assault survivor; involve or consult with persons from
30 various professional disciplines who have training and expertise
31 in addressing special types of sexual assault; and submit an
32 annual report to the attorney general describing the services and
33 trainings that have been provided.

34 The bill provides that a contracting nonprofit organization
35 may seek funding or reimbursement from other sources including

1 but not limited to charging for attendance at trainings.
2 The contract shall provide general funding as reimbursement
3 toward the contracting nonprofit organization's overall operating
4 expenditures.
5 The bill provides that a contracting nonprofit organization
6 is not a state agency for the purposes of Code chapter 8A,
7 subchapter IV, or Code chapter 20 or 669.

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