

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1057
By: Zaffirini
Health & Human Services
3-27-97
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, several facilities operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (department) have either closed or been renamed; however, current law does not account for these changes. Examples include the Fort Worth State School and the Travis State School. This legislation updates the Health and Safety Code to reflect recent closings and name changes. S.B. 1057 also authorizes the department to designate an inpatient mental health facility licensed under this chapter as a state mental hospital in an effort to create more flexibility in the provision of public mental health services.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1057 establishes provisions regarding the composition of and certain services operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 532.001(b), Health and Safety Code, to provide that the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (department) also includes community services operated by the department and the Vernon-Wichita Falls State Hospital, rather than the Vernon State Hospital, among others. Deletes the Wichita Falls State Hospital, the Fort Worth State School, the Travis State School, and the Leander Rehabilitation Center from the list of department facilities. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Subdivision (21), Section 571.003, Health and Safety Code, to redefine "state mental hospital" as a mental hospital operated by the department or an inpatient mental health facility that is designated by the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation under Section 577.0035.

SECTION 3. Amends Chapter 577, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 577.0035, as follows:

Sec. 577.0035. DESIGNATION FOR PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.
Authorizes the department to designate an inpatient mental health facility licensed under this chapter as a state mental hospital for purposes of providing public mental health services.

SECTION 4. Repealers: Chapters 552C and D, Health and Safety Code (San Antonio State Hospital and Austin State Hospital); Section 553.021, Health and Safety Code (Lufkin State School); and Chapters 554B-D, Health and Safety Code (Laredo State Center, Leander Rehabilitation Center, and Dallas Neuropsychiatric Institute).

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.