



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Second Reading
Date: 1/20/2016

Bill Number

Senate Bill 16-039

Sponsors

**Senator Newell, Senator
Martinez Humenik
Representative Lee**

Short Title

***Mental Health And Collaborative
Management Teams***

Research Analyst

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Status

The bill is currently pending before the Senate on second reading. This research note reflects the bill as amended by the Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee on January 20, 2016.

Summary

This bill, requested by the ***Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Mental Illness in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems***, clarifies which mental health professionals can be included in a memorandum of understanding establishing a collaborative management team.

Background

In 2004, the Colorado General Assembly passed legislation establishing the collaborative management process at the county level to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families involved with multiple agencies. The Collaborative Management Program (CMP) is administered by the Division of Child Welfare in the Colorado Department of Human Services. State law specifies a uniform collaborative management process that integrates the oversight of services from multiple state and county agencies. The goals of the CMP, as outlined in state law, include:

- developing a more uniform system of collaborative management that includes the input, expertise, and active participation of parent advocacy or family advocacy organizations;
- reducing duplication and eliminating fragmentation of services;
- increasing quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of services provided;

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- encouraging cost sharing among service providers; and
- achieving better outcomes and cost reductions for the services provided to children and families.

The collaborative management teams are established through voluntary memorandums of understanding entered into by county departments of social services and local representatives of various agencies or entities, such as local judicial districts, local school districts, and the Division of Youth Corrections in the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Senate Action

Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee (January 20, 2016). At the hearing, a representative from the Arc of Colorado testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001; referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole; and recommended it be placed on the consent calendar. Amendment L.001 allowed a mental health professional to be included in a memorandum of understanding entered into between a county department of human or social services and other local-level service providers when the area involved does not have a local community mental health center, and listed which types of mental health professionals may be included in the memorandum of understanding.

Relevant Research

- Final Report of the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Mental Illness in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems, Research Publication No. 659, December 2015. <http://1.usa.gov/202z5Sb>.
- Colorado Office of the State Auditor, Department of Human Services - Child Welfare Performance Audit, October 2014, p. 174. <http://bit.ly/1AHReKZ>.