

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chairman of Committee

February 18, 2010
Date

Committee on Health and Human Services.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB10-1032 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and
2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. Part 2 of article 1 of title 27, Colorado Revised
4 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to
5 read:

6 **27-1-210. Mental health crisis response system - legislative**
7 **declaration - report by department.** (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
8 HEREBY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

9 (I) THERE ARE PEOPLE IN COLORADO COMMUNITIES WHO ARE
10 EXPERIENCING MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISES AND NEED
11 PROFESSIONAL CRISIS CARE OR URGENT PSYCHIATRIC CARE FROM SKILLED
12 MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIANS AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS WHO EXCEL AT
13 PROVIDING COMPASSIONATE CRISIS INTERVENTION AND STABILIZATION;

14 (II) MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS CAN HAPPEN
15 ANY HOUR OF THE DAY AND ANY DAY OF THE WEEK;

16 (III) PERSONS IN CRISIS FREQUENTLY COME IN CONTACT WITH
17 COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS WHO ARE OFTEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE
18 NECESSARY MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS OR WHO MUST TRANSPORT
19 THESE PERSONS IN CRISIS TO EMERGENCY ROOMS FOR SERVICES, OR, IN

1 CASES WHERE A CRIME IS ALLEGED, TO JAIL;

2 (IV) COLORADO RANKS FIFTIETH IN THE NATION IN THE NUMBER
3 OF INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC BEDS;

4 (V) FEWER THAN ONE-HALF OF THE PERSONS WHO ARE IN CRISIS
5 AND ARE TAKEN TO AN EMERGENCY ROOM ARE ADMITTED FOR INPATIENT
6 HOSPITALIZATION, MEANING THAT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EACH YEAR
7 RETURN TO COMMUNITY STREETS WITH LITTLE, IF ANY, MENTAL HEALTH
8 OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS INTERVENTION OR TREATMENT; AND

9 (VI) SIGNIFICANT TIME AND RESOURCES ARE REQUIRED OF
10 COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS IN ADDRESSING PERSONS IN MENTAL
11 HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS AND, IN MANY CASES, THIS
12 COMMUNITY RESPONSE IS NEITHER TIMELY NOR SAFE FOR THE PERSON IN
13 CRISIS NOR COST-EFFICIENT FOR THE STATE.

14 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE FINDS THAT:

15 (I) A COORDINATED CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM PROVIDES FOR
16 EARLY INTERVENTION AND EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OF PERSONS IN MENTAL
17 HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS;

18 (II) A COORDINATED CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM SHOULD INVOLVE
19 FIRST RESPONDERS AND INCLUDE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS TO
20 INTEGRATE AVAILABLE CRISIS RESPONSES;

21 (III) A COORDINATED CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM SHOULD BE
22 AVAILABLE IN ALL COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE; AND

23 (IV) A COORDINATED CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM MAY INCLUDE
24 COMMUNITY-BASED CRISIS CENTERS WHERE PERSONS IN MENTAL HEALTH
25 OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS MAY BE STABILIZED AND RECEIVE
26 SHORT-TERM TREATMENT.

27 (2) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE CURRENT
28 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE IN COLORADO AND SHALL
29 FORMULATE A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF COORDINATED CRISIS
30 RESPONSE IN THE STATE. THE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE
31 BEST USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
32 MANAGED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1 ORGANIZATIONS, MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS, CRISIS INTERVENTION
2 TRAINED OFFICERS, METRO CRISIS SERVICES, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER
3 ENTITIES IMPACTING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE.

4 (b) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 30, 2011, THE STATE DEPARTMENT
5 SHALL PRESENT TO A JOINT MEETING OF THE HEALTH AND HUMAN
6 SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
7 SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, A REPORT CONCERNING
8 COORDINATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE IN COLORADO. THE
9 REPORT, AT A MINIMUM, SHALL INCLUDE THE PLAN PREPARED PURSUANT
10 TO PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2).

11 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
12 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety."

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