



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 470

January Session, 2023

Senate Bill No. 1211

Senate, April 6, 2023

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. ANWAR of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER PILOT PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Department of Mental Health
2 and Addiction Services, in consultation with the Department of
3 Children and Families, shall establish a mental health crisis center pilot
4 program in one region of the state to be determined by the
5 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purpose
6 of enhancing mental health outcomes for persons experiencing a mental
7 health crisis by redirecting such persons away from the hospital
8 emergency department and toward a facility dedicated to the provision
9 of mental health services to persons in crisis. The Commissioner of
10 Mental Health and Addiction Services shall establish the pilot program
11 in accordance with such terms and conditions as the commissioner may
12 prescribe.

13 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall report, in
14 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,

15 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
16 cognizance of matters relating to public health regarding the success of
17 the pilot program in serving persons experiencing a mental health crisis
18 and any recommendations for continuing the pilot program or
19 expanding the pilot program into other communities in the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	New section

PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Mental Health & Addiction Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to establish a mental health crisis center pilot program. The bill requires that the pilot be located in one region of the state as a dedicated facility for the provision of mental health services to those in crisis who have been redirected from hospital emergency departments. DMHAS does not currently have a facility solely for this purpose and would incur significant costs to either (1) establish and staff such a location or (2) contract with a provider able to meet the pilot program requirements. For context, the cost to provide mental health services varies based on need and setting and can range from \$60,000 per bed annually to more than \$150,000 annually for a more intensive residential setting. The actual costs are dependent on the terms and conditions of the pilot to be prescribed by the agency.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the scope and length of the pilot.



OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1211

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER PILOT PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 37 Nay 0 (03/27/2023)