

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Crisis Intervention Team program;
 3 providing for adoption of the program as a pilot program;
 4 directing the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health
 5 Institute at the University of South Florida to conduct a
 6 study of the Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) program;
 7 providing the purpose of the study; providing for a
 8 report; providing for funding; providing an effective
 9 date.

10

11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12

13 Section 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to reduce
 14 the number of arrests for people with serious mental illnesses
 15 and reduce the use of force-related injuries involving people
 16 with serious mental illnesses. Therefore, the Department of Law
 17 Enforcement is authorized to adopt the Crisis Intervention Team
 18 (C.I.T.) program as a pilot program to provide lessons for its
 19 statewide use by other law enforcement agencies.

20 Section 2. The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health
 21 Institute at the University of South Florida shall conduct a
 22 study of the Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) program being
 23 used by the members of the Florida C.I.T. Coalition, which is a
 24 coalition of several counties involving law enforcement
 25 agencies, community providers, and families and consumers
 26 developing the core standards for a consistent C.I.T. program
 27 for the state. The purpose of the study will be to look at the
 28 effectiveness of the C.I.T. program related to a reduction in

29 arrests for people with serious mental illnesses as well as an
30 increase in jail diversion activities, a reduction in the use of
31 force-related injuries, and identification of those core
32 elements of the C.I.T. program that make it an effective police
33 response. The institute, in conjunction with the Florida C.I.T.
34 Coalition, will submit a report of the findings of its study,
35 which shall include recommendations as to whether the C.I.T
36 program should be adopted by all law enforcement agencies as a
37 best practice, recommendations as to the resources necessary to
38 assist communities in adopting the C.I.T. program, and
39 recommendations as to other training needs for law enforcement
40 agencies related to people with serious mental illnesses, to the
41 Legislature and the Department of Law Enforcement by July 1,
42 2006.

43 Section 3. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized
44 to use up to \$175,000 to contract with the Louis de la Parte
45 Florida Mental Health Institute to implement this act.

46 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.