

By Senator Bullard

39-6-07

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Crisis Intervention Team program; providing for adoption of the program as a pilot program; directing the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of South Florida to conduct a study of the Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) program; providing the purpose of the study; providing for a report; providing for funding; providing an effective date.

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

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

Section 2. The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of South Florida shall conduct a study of the Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) program being used by the members of the Florida C.I.T. Coalition, which is a coalition of several counties involving law enforcement agencies, community providers, and families and consumers, for the purpose of developing core standards for a consistent C.I.T. program for the state. The purpose of the study is to assess the effectiveness of the C.I.T. program in reducing the number of arrests of people who have serious mental illnesses,

1 reducing the number of force-related injuries, and identifying  
2 those core elements of the C.I.T. program which make it an  
3 effective police response. The institute, in conjunction with  
4 the Florida C.I.T. Coalition, shall submit a report of the  
5 findings of its study to the Legislature and the Department of  
6 Law Enforcement by July 1, 2008. The report must include  
7 recommendations as to whether the C.I.T. program should be  
8 adopted by all law enforcement agencies as a best practice,  
9 recommendations as to the resources necessary to assist  
10 communities in adopting the C.I.T. program, and  
11 recommendations as to other training needs for law enforcement  
12 agencies related to people who have serious mental illnesses.

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

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

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21   SENATE SUMMARY

22 Provides for adopting the Crisis Intervention Team  
23 program (C.I.T.) as a pilot program. Directs the Louis de  
24 la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the  
University of South Florida to conduct a study of the  
C.I.T. program.

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