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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/12/2022	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Brodeur) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection  
(4) of section 394.9086, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
394.9086 Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse.—

(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the commission are to examine  
the current methods of providing mental health and substance  
abuse services in the state and to improve the effectiveness of



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11 current practices, procedures, programs, and initiatives in  
12 providing such services; identify any barriers or deficiencies  
13 in the delivery of such services; assess the adequacy of the  
14 current infrastructure of Florida's National Suicide Prevention  
15 Lifeline (NSPL) system and other components of the state's  
16 behavioral health crisis system; and recommend changes to  
17 existing laws, rules, and policies necessary to implement the  
18 commission's recommendations.

19 (4) DUTIES.—

20 (a) The duties of the Commission on Mental Health and  
21 Substance Abuse include the following:

22 1. Conducting a review and evaluation of the management and  
23 functioning of the existing publicly supported mental health and  
24 substance abuse systems and services in the department, the  
25 Agency for Health Care Administration, and all other departments  
26 which administer mental health and substance abuse services.  
27 Such review shall include, at a minimum, a review of current  
28 goals and objectives, current planning, services strategies,  
29 coordination management, purchasing, contracting, financing,  
30 local government funding responsibility, and accountability  
31 mechanisms.

32 2. Considering the unique needs of persons who are dually  
33 diagnosed.

34 3. Addressing access to, financing of, and scope of  
35 responsibility in the delivery of emergency behavioral health  
36 care services.

37 4. Addressing the quality and effectiveness of current  
38 mental health and substance abuse services delivery systems, and  
39 professional staffing and clinical structure of services, roles,



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40 and responsibilities of public and private providers, such as  
41 community mental health centers; community substance abuse  
42 agencies; hospitals, including emergency services departments;  
43 law enforcement agencies; and the judicial system.

44 5. Addressing priority population groups for publicly  
45 funded mental health and substance abuse services, identifying  
46 the comprehensive mental health and substance abuse services  
47 delivery systems, mental health and substance abuse needs  
48 assessment and planning activities, and local government funding  
49 responsibilities for mental health and substance abuse services.

50 6. Reviewing the implementation of chapter 2020-107, Laws  
51 of Florida.

52 7. Identifying any gaps in the provision of mental health  
53 and substance use disorder services.

54 8. Providing recommendations on how behavioral health  
55 managing entities may fulfill their purpose of promoting service  
56 continuity and work with community stakeholders throughout the  
57 state in furtherance of supporting the NSPL system and other  
58 crisis response services.

59 9. Conducting an overview of the current infrastructure of  
60 Florida's NSPL system.

61 10. Analyzing the current capacity of crisis response  
62 services available throughout the state, including services  
63 provided by mobile response teams and centralized receiving  
64 facilities. The analysis must include information on the  
65 geographic area and the total population served by each mobile  
66 response team along with the average response time to each call  
67 made to a mobile response team; the number of calls that a  
68 mobile response team was unable to respond to due to staff



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69 limitations, travel distance, or other factors; and the veteran  
70 status and age groups of individuals served by mobile response  
71 teams.

72 11. Evaluating and making recommendations to improve  
73 linkages between the NSPL infrastructure and crisis response  
74 services throughout the state.

75 12. Identifying available mental health block grant funds  
76 that can be used to support the NSPL and crisis response  
77 infrastructure within this state, including any available  
78 funding through opioid settlements or through the American  
79 Rescue Plan Act, Pub. L. No. 117-2, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,  
80 and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, or other  
81 federal legislation.

82 13. In consultation with the Agency for Health Care  
83 Administration, identifying sources of funding available through  
84 the Medicaid program specifically for crisis response services,  
85 including funding that may be available through seeking approval  
86 of a section 1115 waiver submitted to the Centers for Medicare  
87 and Medicaid Services.

88 14.9. Making recommendations regarding the mission and  
89 objectives of state-supported mental health and substance abuse  
90 services and the planning, management, staffing, financing,  
91 contracting, coordination, and accountability mechanisms which  
92 will best foster the recommended mission and objectives.

93 15.10. Evaluating and making recommendations regarding the  
94 establishment of a permanent, agency-level entity to manage  
95 mental health, substance abuse, and related services statewide.  
96 At a minimum, the evaluation must consider and describe the:

97 a. Specific duties and organizational structure proposed



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98 for the entity;

99 b. Resource needs of the entity and possible sources of  
100 funding;

101 c. Estimated impact on access to and quality of services;

102 d. Impact on individuals with behavioral health needs and  
103 their families, both those currently served through the affected  
104 systems providing behavioral health services and those in need  
105 of services; and

106 e. Relation to, integration with, and impact on providers,  
107 managing entities, communities, state agencies, and systems  
108 which provide mental health and substance abuse services in this  
109 state. Such recommendations must ensure that the ability of such  
110 other agencies and systems to carry out their missions and  
111 responsibilities is not impaired.

112 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

113 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

114 And the title is amended as follows:

115 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
116 and insert:

117 A bill to be entitled  
118 An act relating to suicide prevention; amending s.  
119 394.9086; modifying the purposes of the Commission on  
120 Mental Health and Substance Abuse; directing the  
121 Commission to assess the adequacy of the state's  
122 suicide prevention infrastructure; modifying the  
123 duties of the Commission; directing the Commission to  
124 examine certain elements of the state's suicide  
125 prevention infrastructure; providing an effective  
126 date.