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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/14/2024	.	
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The Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services (Boyd) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Part VI of chapter 395, Florida Statutes,
consisting of ss. 395.901 and 395.902, Florida Statutes, is
created and entitled "Behavioral Health Teaching Hospitals."

Section 2. Section 395.901, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

395.901 Behavioral health teaching hospitals.-



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11 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this part, the term:
12 (a) “Agency” means the Agency for Health Care
13 Administration.
14 (b) “Behavioral health teaching hospital” means a
15 community-based hospital licensed under this chapter which has
16 partnered with a university school of medicine and offers
17 integrated behavioral health education as specified in s.
18 395.902.
19 (2) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—
20 (a) The Legislature finds that there is a critical shortage
21 of behavioral health professionals and recognizes the urgent
22 need to expand the existing behavioral health workforce, prepare
23 for an aging workforce, incentivize entry into behavioral health
24 professions, and train a modernized workforce in innovative
25 integrated care.
26 (b) The Legislature finds there is a specific need to
27 support a behavioral health education system that not only
28 trains the next generation of professionals in innovative and
29 integrated care for those with behavioral health needs, but also
30 works to modernize the state’s overall behavioral health system
31 of care.
32 (c) Therefore, the Legislature intends to identify and
33 designate multiple behavioral health teaching hospitals that
34 work to provide the necessary research, education, and services
35 to not only enhance this state’s behavioral health workforce,
36 but to make that workforce and system of care the national
37 standard. The Legislature intends to establish pilot designated
38 behavioral health teaching hospitals with the intent to develop
39 and implement a statewide model.



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40 (d) The Legislature further intends to create the Florida
41 Center for Behavioral Health Workforce within the Louis de la
42 Parte Florida Mental Health Institute to address issues of
43 workforce supply and demand in behavioral health professions,
44 including issues of recruitment, retention, and workforce
45 resources.

46 (e) The Legislature intends for designated behavioral
47 health teaching hospitals to:

48 1. Focus on state-of-the-art behavioral health research.

49 2. Provide leading-edge education and training for this
50 state's behavioral health workforce in innovative and integrated
51 care.

52 3. Collaborate with other university colleges and schools
53 of nursing, psychology, social work, pharmacy, public health,
54 and other relevant disciplines to promote and enhance a
55 modernized behavioral health system of care.

56 4. Develop, implement, and promote public-private
57 partnerships throughout this state to support and enhance the
58 intent of this part.

59 5. Partner with the state to provide inpatient and
60 outpatient behavioral health care, address system-wide
61 behavioral health needs, and support the state in providing
62 treatment and care for those whose need and acuity has resulted
63 in the need for long-term voluntary or involuntary civil
64 commitment.

65 Section 3. Section 395.902, Florida Statutes, is created to
66 read:

67 395.902 Designated behavioral health teaching hospitals.—

68 (1) To be designated as a behavioral health teaching



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69 hospital, a hospital must meet all of the following criteria:

70 (a) Offer a psychiatric residency program accredited
71 through the Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation
72 Council of Graduate Medical Education.

73 (b) Offer an accredited postdoctoral clinical psychology
74 fellowship program.

75 (c) Develop and maintain a consultation agreement with the
76 Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute as established
77 in s. 1004.44, including with the Florida Center for Behavioral
78 Health Workforce.

79 (d) As part of its partnership with a university school of
80 medicine, develop and submit a plan to the Department of
81 Children and Families and the Florida Center for Behavioral
82 Health Workforce that meets all of the following criteria:

83 1. Promotes the development of integrated behavioral health
84 workforce educational programs, including, but not limited to,
85 practicums and internships for clinical and nonclinical
86 behavioral and physical health professions.

87 2. Promotes a coordinated system of care which offers
88 inpatient and outpatient treatment and services for individuals
89 with behavioral health needs, including, but not limited to,
90 prevention, community inpatient care, crisis stabilization,
91 short-term residential treatment, screening, therapeutic and
92 supportive services, and long-term care.

93 3. Coordinates and promotes innovative partnerships that
94 integrate colleges and schools of nursing, psychology, social
95 work, pharmacy, public health, and other relevant disciplines
96 with existing local and regional programs, clinics, and
97 resources.



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98 4. Develops processes to identify local gaps in access to
99 inpatient care.

100 5. Partners with the Department of Children and Families
101 and Managing Entities to build capacity in safety net inpatient
102 and outpatient behavioral health services.

103 6. Provides bed capacity to support state hospital needs,
104 when needed.

105 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), to accomplish the
106 stated intent of this section to develop and implement a
107 statewide model of a behavioral health teaching hospital, the
108 following partnerships are designated as behavioral health
109 teaching hospitals without meeting the required criteria of this
110 section as 3-year pilots, expected to meet all criteria and
111 requirements of subsection (1) by July 1, 2027:

112 1. The University of South Florida Morsani College of
113 Medicine and Tampa General Hospital.

114 2. The University of Florida School of Medicine and UF
115 Health Shands Hospitals in Gainesville and Jacksonville.

116 3. The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and
117 Jackson Memorial Hospital.

118 (3) (a) A designated behavioral health teaching hospital
119 must annually report to the Department of Children and Families
120 by December 1, the current status of the designated behavioral
121 health teaching hospital program, including, but not limited to
122 the:

123 1. Number of psychiatric residents.

124 2. Number of postdoctoral clinical psychology fellows.

125 3. Status and details of the consultation agreement with
126 the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute and



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127 Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce.
128 4. Status and implementation details of the plan required
129 under paragraph (1)(d).
130 (b) Upon completion of the 3-year pilot on July 1, 2027,
131 the Department of Children and Families, in collaboration with
132 the Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce, the pilot
133 behavioral health teaching hospitals, and other relevant
134 stakeholders must submit a report to the President of the
135 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Governor by
136 July 1, 2028. This report must, at a minimum:
137 1. Evaluate the effectiveness of the behavioral health
138 teaching hospital model.
139 2. Discuss barriers to the implementation and operation of
140 the model.
141 3. Recommend policy changes to enhance the model to better
142 meet the intent of the Legislature.
143 4. Evaluate and recommend whether the state should maintain
144 the original designated pilot behavioral teaching hospital
145 locations or detail the necessity for and recommend the
146 expansion of the model to new partnership sites.
147 Section 4. Subsection (1) and paragraph (d) of subsection
148 (2) of section 409.91256, Florida Statutes, as created by SB
149 7016, Regular Session 2024, is amended to read:
150 409.91256 Training, Education, and Clinicals in Health
151 (TEACH) Funding Program.—
152 (1) PURPOSE AND INTENT.—The Training, Education, and
153 Clinicals in Health (TEACH) Funding Program is created to
154 provide a high-quality educational experience while supporting
155 participating federally qualified health centers, community



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156 mental health centers, rural health clinics, behavioral health
157 teaching hospitals, and certified community behavioral health
158 clinics by offsetting administrative costs and loss of revenue
159 associated with training residents and students to become
160 licensed health care practitioners. Further, it is the intent of
161 the Legislature to use the program to support the state Medicaid
162 program and underserved populations by expanding the available
163 health care workforce.

164 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

165 (d) "Qualified facility" means a federally qualified health
166 center, a community mental health center, rural health clinic,
167 behavioral health teaching hospital, or a certified community
168 behavioral health clinic.

169 Section 5. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) are added to
170 section 1004.44, Florida Statutes, to read:

171 1004.44 Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.—
172 There is established the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health
173 Institute within the University of South Florida.

174 (6) (a) There is established, within the institute, the
175 Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce to address issues
176 of workforce supply and demand in behavioral health professions,
177 including issues of recruitment, retention, and workforce
178 resources.

179 (b) The primary goals for the center are to:

180 1. Design and implement a longitudinal study of the state's
181 behavioral health workforce that, at a minimum:

182 a. Produces a statistically valid biennial data-driven
183 analysis of the supply and demand of the behavioral health
184 workforce. To achieve such goal, the center must:



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185 (I) Identify and define specific professions to be
186 considered "behavioral health professions" for analysis.
187 (II) Establish and maintain a database on the supply and
188 demand of behavioral health professionals in this state, to
189 include current supply and demand; and
190 (III) Analyze the current and future supply and demand in
191 the state.
192 b. Develops recommendations and strategies to increase the
193 state's behavioral health workforce, behavioral health
194 profession training and education programs, and behavioral
195 health profession faculty development.
196 c. Develops best practices in the academic preparation and
197 continuing education needs of behavioral health professionals.
198 d. Collects data on behavioral health professions,
199 employment, distribution, and retention.
200 2. Develop a strategic statewide plan for the state's
201 behavioral health workforce that:
202 a. Pilots innovative projects to support the recruitment,
203 development, and retention of qualified behavioral health
204 professionals, to include behavioral health educators, faculty,
205 and clinical preceptors.
206 b. Encourages and coordinates the development of academic-
207 practice partnerships that support behavioral health faculty
208 employment and advancement.
209 c. Develops distance learning infrastructure for behavioral
210 health education and the evidence-based use of technology,
211 simulation, and distance learning techniques.
212 d. Enhance and promote behavioral health professions and
213 professionals in this state by developing and promoting:



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214 (I) Behavioral health excellence programs.
215 (II) Reward, recognition, and renewal activities.
216 (III) Media and image-building efforts.
217 3. Convene various groups representative of behavioral
218 health professions, other health care providers, business and
219 industry, consumers, lawmakers, educators, and the Commission on
220 Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder to:
221 a. Review and comment on the center's behavioral health
222 workforce data analysis;
223 b. Provide an overview of the state's behavioral health
224 infrastructure and perform a gap analysis to recommend systemic
225 changes, including strategies for implementation of recommended
226 changes;
227 c. Develop a strategic plan to implement the
228 recommendations of the Commission on Mental Health and Substance
229 Use Disorder to:
230 (I) Strengthen community networks and cross-agency
231 collaboration;
232 (II) Enhance the state's crisis care continuum;
233 (III) Improve data collection and management processes; and
234 (IV) Optimize financial management of the behavioral health
235 system of care.
236 d. Evaluate how to best promote, integrate, and incentivize
237 the establishment and growth of the behavioral health teaching
238 hospital model.
239 4. Evaluate and report the results of these efforts to the
240 Legislature and other entities.
241 (c) The center may request from any board as defined in s.
242 456.001, and the board must provide to the center upon its



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243 request, any information held by the board regarding a
244 behavioral health professional licensed in this state or holding
245 a multistate license pursuant to a professional multistate
246 licensure compact or information reported to the board by
247 employers of such behavioral health professionals, other than
248 personal identifying information.

249 (d) By January 10 of each year, the center shall submit a
250 report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
251 Speaker of the House of Representatives providing details of its
252 activities during the preceding calendar year in pursuit of its
253 goals and in the execution of its duties under paragraph (b).

254 (7) The Board of Governors and the State Board of
255 Education, in consultation with the center, shall expeditiously
256 adopt any necessary regulations and rules, as applicable, to
257 allow the center to perform its responsibilities as soon as
258 practicable.

259 Section 6. Effective upon this act becoming a law, the
260 Department of Children and Families must contract for a detailed
261 study of Florida's forensic, voluntary and involuntary civil
262 commitment, and statewide inpatient psychiatric programs bed
263 capacity. The study must be completed by January 31, 2025, and
264 at a minimum include the following:

265 (1) An analysis of bed capacity in forensic, voluntary and
266 involuntary civil commitment, and statewide inpatient
267 psychiatric programs.

268 (2) Policy recommendations for ensuring sufficient bed
269 capacity in those settings.

270 (3) An evaluation of maintaining civil commitment beds as a
271 requirement for designation as a behavioral health teaching



272 hospital, to include potential costs related to capital outlay,
273 enhanced bed rate, and staffing requirements.

274 (4) Recommendations for promoting coordination between
275 Florida's civil commitment system and behavioral health teaching
276 hospitals.

277 (5) Recommendations to build capacity for safety net
278 inpatient and outpatient services that will mitigate involuntary
279 commitments.

280 Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
281 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

282
283 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

284 And the title is amended as follows:

285 Delete everything before the enacting clause
286 and insert:

287 A bill to be entitled
288 An act relating to behavioral health teaching
289 hospitals; creating part VI of ch. 395, F.S., entitled
290 "Behavioral Health Teaching Hospitals"; creating s.
291 395.901, F.S.; defining the terms "agency" and
292 "behavioral health teaching hospital"; providing
293 legislative findings and intent; creating s. 395.902,
294 F.S.; specifying criteria that a hospital must meet to
295 receive such designation; naming specified pilot
296 sites; requiring an annual report; requireing report
297 upon completion of the 3-year pilot; amending s.
298 1004.44, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for
299 Behavioral Health Workforce within the Louis de la
300 Parte Florida Mental Health Institute for a specified



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301 purpose; specifying the primary goals of the center;
302 requiring the center to establish and maintain a
303 database on the supply and demand of behavioral health
304 professionals in this state for a specified purpose;
305 authorizing the center to request, and requiring
306 certain boards to provide, certain information
307 regarding behavioral health professionals licensed or
308 practicing in this state; requiring the center to
309 submit an annual report of certain information to the
310 Governor and the Legislature; requiring the Department
311 of Children and Families to contract for a study of
312 the state's involuntary commitment bed capacity;
313 specifying requirements for the study; providing
314 effective dates.