

May 16 2013

Legislative Council

RE: HJR 16 Study state-operated public institutions

Dear Chairman and Legislative Council Committee Members:

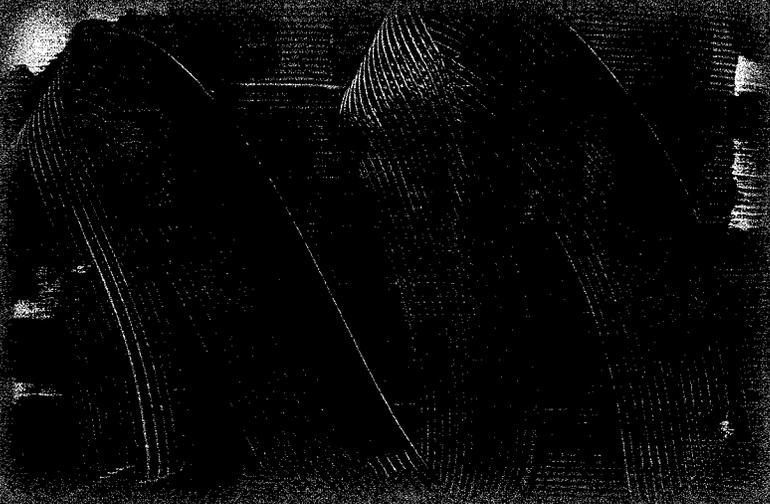
I respectfully request you perform the study of state-operated public institutions serving people with mental illnesses. Short comments see below:

1. Over 370 inmates at MSP with a mental illness receiving limited to no mental health treatment.
2. MSH Forensic unit is too small to house all the inmate/patients.
3. MSH Forensic Unit needs more forensic group homes to house the forensic patients, for those which have met the levels system, but still required to be at MSH facility.
4. Only one psychiatrist at MSP for the 370 inmates with a mental illness.
5. MSP has a "secret" list of medication which it will only prescribe for mental illness, because it's the cheapest and older generation medication on the market. There are newer and more effective drugs available with less side effects.
6. Due to the number of patients MSH has been instructed to house, if it is going ¹⁸⁹ ~~of~~ ^{over} the 189 limit, then it ships the patient/inmate to MSP where the new inmate receives little to no mental health treatment.
7. Limited mental health beds at prison.
8. Limited qualified staff at prison to treat the inmates with mental illnesses.
9. If you add the MSH forensic unit patients with the MSP inmates with a mental illness you will have over 450 total, and only the ones at the hospital get true recovery treatment services.

I could go on, but this is a start. Thank you for your consideration.

Patti Jacques
1957 University St
Helena MT 59601
406-431-3245
dpjacques1@bresnan.net

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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Exhibit 4



Schizophrenia

National Institute of Mental Health

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • National Institutes of Health