

HOUSE BILL NO. 237

INTRODUCED BY R. EHLE

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM TRAINING PROGRAM; REQUIRING THE BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL TO DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; ALLOWING THE BOARD TO OFFER GRANT FUNDING AND TO CONTRACT WITH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE OR COORDINATE TRAINING; AND GRANTING THE BOARD RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Crisis intervention team training program -- rulemaking. (1) Within the limits of available funds, the board of crime control shall develop and administer a crisis intervention team training program to increase the number of law enforcement officers, behavioral health providers, and community stakeholders who are trained to respond safely and effectively to incidents that involve an individual who is experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

(2) Local law enforcement agencies, including tribal law enforcement agencies, are eligible to receive grant funding. Grant funds must be used to provide specialized training to help officers:

(a) recognize and properly respond to individuals with a mental illness or behavioral health problem, including strategies for verbal de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques; and

(b) best utilize or establish collaborative programs that enhance the ability of law enforcement agencies to coordinate with community-based service providers to address the behavioral health problems of individuals typically encountered by law enforcement officers in the line of duty.

(3) The board may also contract directly with a nonprofit organization to provide or coordinate community-based training programs or to develop best practices and standards.

(4) In administering the crisis intervention team training program, the board shall:

(a) identify and disseminate data and technical assistance to local law enforcement and to community stakeholders on established best practices or develop statewide best practices for community-based law enforcement responses to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis;

(b) identify priorities for funding services, activities, and criteria for the receipt of program funds, including



1 that the training offered should incorporate the best practices identified or developed by the board;
2 (c) monitor the expenditure of funds by organizations receiving funds under this section;
3 (d) evaluate the effectiveness of services and activities under this section;
4 (e) adopt rules as needed to implement this section; and
5 (f) to the extent practicable, coordinate with existing statewide organizations that identify best practices,
6 develop training models, and collect data to avoid duplication of efforts.

7 (5) (a) Funds available under subsection (1) consist of state appropriations and federal funds received
8 by the board for the purposes of administering the crisis intervention team training program or any funds received
9 pursuant to subsection (5)(b). The board shall actively seek federal grant money that may be used for the
10 purposes of this section.

11 (b) The board may accept gifts, grants, and donations from other public or private sources, which must
12 be used within the scope of this section.

13 (c) The board may utilize up to 10% of funds appropriated for costs incurred to administer the program.
14

15 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
16 integral part of Title 44, chapter 4, part 3, and the provisions of Title 44, chapter 4, part 3, apply to [section 1].
17

18 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a
19 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell
20 Chippewa tribe.

21 - END -