

HOUSE BILL NO. 660

INTRODUCED BY J. KRAUTTER

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A MOBILE CRISIS UNIT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Definitions.** As used in [sections 1 through 3], the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Department" means the department of public health and human services provided for in 2-15-2201.
- (2) "Mental health crisis" means a mental health condition that manifests in symptoms of sufficient severity that it is reasonable to expect the absence of immediate attention or intervention to result in:
 - (a) serious jeopardy to the individual's health or well-being; or
 - (b) a danger to others.
- (3) "Mobile crisis intervention services" means mental health services provided by a mobile crisis unit at the location where a person is having a mental health crisis, as determined through screening by dispatch. Services are intended to:
 - (a) stabilize acute psychiatric or behavioral symptoms;
 - (b) evaluate treatment needs;
 - (c) develop a plan to meet the ongoing needs of the person having a mental health crisis; and
 - (d) transport the person to a more appropriate facility for care if applicable.
- (4) "Mobile crisis unit" means a team consisting of one mobile crisis unit professional and one other person that provides mobile crisis intervention services and coordinates with dispatch, local law enforcement, emergency medical services personnel, and other appropriate local or state resources.
- (5) "Mobile crisis unit professional" means a mental health professional, as defined in 37-38-102, or a behavioral health peer support specialist as provided for in 37-38-101, who has completed additional training and certification requirements developed by the department.



1 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Department duties -- rulemaking authority.** (1) The department shall
2 adopt rules necessary for the administration of [sections 1 through 3].

3 (2) The rules may include but are not limited to:

4 (a) training and licensure requirements for mobile crisis unit personnel; and

5 (b) reporting requirements for the grant recipients.

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7 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Grants -- reporting requirements.** (1) Subject to appropriation by the
8 legislature, the department shall award competitive grants to local communities for establishing mobile crisis units.

9 (2) A grant award under this section may not exceed \$125,000 and must be matched in the amount of
10 \$1 in local government matching funds for each \$1 in grant money awarded.

11 (3) A grant application must include, at a minimum, the following elements:

12 (a) a proposal containing information that is sufficient for the department to obtain an adequate
13 understanding of how the program will operate, including the:

14 (i) days and hours proposed to be staffed;

15 (ii) criteria for hiring mobile crisis unit personnel;

16 (iii) plan for training and certification of mobile crisis unit professionals, which must include first aid,
17 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and nonviolent crisis resolution; and

18 (iv) plan for transporting mobile crisis units;

19 (b) the proposed budget;

20 (c) proof of available local government matching funds in the amount of \$1 for each \$1 applied for in
21 grant money;

22 (d) written confirmation from the local law enforcement agency that the local law enforcement agency
23 is amenable to coordinating with the mobile crisis unit and the proposed coordination protocol; and

24 (e) the name of the consulting company that will be utilized, if applicable.

25 (4) Grant applications shall be reviewed by a selection committee composed of at least one
26 representative from each of the following:

27 (a) the department;

28 (b) the veterans' affairs division of the department of military affairs;

29 (c) the office of the attorney general;

30 (d) a member of the senate appointed by the president; and

1 (e) a member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker.

2 (5) Grant recipients shall collect data and information on emergency room and jail diversion, crisis
3 intervention, and connection with followup services and present the data and information in the form and manner
4 prescribed by the department to support program evaluation, measure progress on performance goals, and allow
5 for a state plan amendment establishing the reimbursement rate for mobile crisis services to be drafted and sent
6 to the centers for medicare and medicaid services for approval.

7 (6) The department shall present a report containing the information received and processed in
8 subsection (5) to the children, families, health, and human services interim committee by October 31, 2020.

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10 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$500,000 from the state general
11 fund to the department of public health and human services for use during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019,
12 for the purposes of [section 3].

13 (2) The appropriation is intended to be a one-time-only appropriation.

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15 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a
16 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell
17 Chippewa tribe.

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19 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 through 3] are intended to be codified
20 as an integral part of Title 53, chapter 21, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 21, apply to [sections 1 through
21 3].

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23 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2019.

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25 **NEW SECTION. Section 8. Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2021.

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