

HB 1713-S3.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Establishes Ricky Garcia's act.

Requires the department of social and health services to: (1) Combine the functions of a designated mental health professional and designated chemical dependency specialist by establishing a designated crisis responder who is authorized to conduct investigations, detain persons up to seventy-two hours to the proper facility, and carry out the other functions identified in chapter 71.05 RCW (mental illness) and chapter 71.34 RCW (mental health services for minors);

(2) Ensure that at least one sixteen-bed secure detoxification facility is operational by April 1, 2018, and at least two sixteen-bed secure detoxification facilities are operational by April 1, 2019; and

(3) Collaborate with the department of health, the state health care authority, and other appropriate government partners to reduce unneeded costs and burdens to health plans and providers associated with excessive audits, the licensing process, and contracting.

Requires the behavioral health organizations to provide training to persons converting to designated crisis responders, as required by the department of social and health services, which must include both mental health and chemical dependency training applicable to the designated crisis responder role.

Requires the department of social and health services and the state health care authority to convene a task force including participation by a representative cross-section of behavioral health organizations and behavioral health providers to align regulations between behavioral health and primary health care settings and simplify regulations for behavioral health providers.

Requires the task force to consider means to provide notice to parents when a minor requests chemical dependency treatment, which are consistent with federal privacy laws and consistent with the best interests of the minor and the minor's family.

Requires the state institute for public policy to evaluate the effect of the integration of the involuntary treatment systems for substance use disorders and mental health and make preliminary reports to the appropriate legislative committees.

Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.