

HB 2691 -- MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

SPONSOR: Buchheit-Courtway

This bill provides the State Mental Health Commission shall oversee and implement a collaborative project to assess the incidence and implications of continued hospitalization of foster children patients with mental illnesses, mental disorders, intellectual disabilities, and developmental disabilities that occurs without medical justification because appropriate post-discharge placement options are unavailable or because they are awaiting screening for appropriateness of residential services. The Commission shall develop recommendations for the Director of the Department of Mental Health to ensure that such patients receive the most cost-effective and efficacious treatment.

The Commission and the Department shall engage and collaborate with the Missouri Institute of Mental Health to evaluate programs and policies as necessary to develop recommendations for the Commission on policy or operational changes. The Commission shall further solicit and consider data and recommendations from stakeholders and subject matter experts as described in the bill.

The Commission shall issue interim reports to the Director of the Department before December 31, 2022, and before July 1, 2023, and a final report before December 1, 2023. In addition each report must be submitted concurrently to specified divisions of the Department of Social Services and the General Assembly

The provisions of this section shall expire on September 1, 2024.