

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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S.B. 1588
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Health & Human Services
4/10/2001
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, a person taken into police custody is only retained for 24 hours. During that time, the person is required to receive both a medical and psychiatric evaluation. Often, the medical evaluation and treatment takes up a considerable portion of the time, leaving insufficient time for the psychiatric evaluation. S.B. 1588 extends the period of time in which an individual in police custody can obtain a psychiatric evaluation.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 573.021(b), Health and Safety Code, to provide that the 24-hour period allowed by this section includes any time the patient spends waiting in the facility for medical care before the person receives the preliminary examination. Provides that the period does not include any time during which the person is actually receiving necessary medical care in the facility's emergency room or emergency care in another area of the facility.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Differs from the original by inserting the words "emergency care" between "room or" and "in another" in SECTION 1.