

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
81R7566 UM-D

S.B. 1054  
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Health & Human Services  
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As Filed

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

In January of 2005, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) closed Kerrville State Hospital (hospital) to civil commitments, leaving a void in the local community for individuals requiring inpatient psychiatric hospitalization to stabilize their symptoms. As a temporary measure to fill the void, DSHS authorized reopening 16 beds at the hospital for civil commitments. During this interim period, Hill County Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center (Hill Country), DSHS, and Representative Harvey Hilderbran have been working cooperatively to develop plans to open a crisis stabilization unit operated by Hill Country in a vacant building on the grounds of the hospital.

The project is a joint effort of the state, county, and private foundations. H.B. 654, authored by Representative Harvey Hilderbran, was passed by the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, and provided for a pilot program through August 2009 whereby Hill Country operates a 16-bed crisis stabilization unit on the grounds of the hospital. Hill Country is recognized as the local mental health authority for a 19-county service area. As such, Hill Country is responsible for evaluating individuals prior to their commitment for inpatient psychiatric services. Hill Country will utilize this evaluation to determine whether individuals are suitable for receiving services within the crisis stabilization unit.

As proposed, S.B. 1054 requires DSHS to operate a crisis stabilization unit on the grounds of the hospital.

### **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 the heading to Section 551.009, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 551.009. HILL COUNTRY LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CRISIS STABILIZATION UNIT.

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 551.009(a), (c), and (e), Health and Safety Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to operate, rather than implement a crisis stabilization unit pilot project by establishing and operating, a crisis stabilization unit on the grounds of the Kerrville State Hospital (hospital) as provided by this section.

(c) Requires the local mental health authority to contract with the hospital to provide food service, laundry service, and lawn care. Deletes existing text that requires the local mental health authority to contract with the hospital to provide equipment rental to the crisis stabilization unit. Deletes existing text authorizing the local mental health authority to contract in the hospital to provide pharmaceutical services for the crisis stabilization unit.

(e) Authorizes DSHS to allocate additional funds appropriated to DSHS for state hospitals to the crisis stabilization unit, rather than the crisis stabilization unit pilot project.

SECTION 3. Repealer: Sections 551.009(g) (relating to DSHS submitting a report to certain legislators) and (h) (relating to this section expiring September 1, 2009), Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 4. Effective date: upon passage or August 31, 2009.