

## HB 1890 -- Comprehensive Psychiatric Services

Sponsor: Moore

This bill changes the laws regarding comprehensive psychiatric services. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Includes suicide prevention intervention rendered in good faith by a qualified counselor or any other person to the list of care or services rendered in an emergency situation that are immune from civil liability;
- (2) Requires facilities or programs operated, funded, or licensed by the Department of Mental Health to disclose medical record information to a patient's guardian or legal custodian as allowed by the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act;
- (3) Allows the use of security escort devices to maintain safety and security and to prevent escape when a patient is being transported outside a mental health facility;
- (4) Specifies that measures used to ensure the safety and security of patients by the head of a mental health facility during a natural or man-made disaster will not be considered restraint, isolation, or seclusion;
- (5) Revises the definition of "mental health coordinator" to any mental health professional authorized by the department director to serve a designated area or mental health facility; and
- (6) Adds investigations regarding mental health admission, detention for evaluation, and treatment by health care professionals, public officials, and certain peace officers to the list of actions that are immune from civil liability.