

HCS SB 660 -- MENTAL HEALTH

SPONSOR: Riddle

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

MEDICAL INSURANCE INFORMATION

This bill allows the Department of Mental Health to request medical insurance information regarding an individual receiving department service from an entity contracted with the department. The information must be in compliance with laws on confidentiality (Section 208.217, RSMo).

INVOLUNTARY MEDICATIONS

This bill provides that, after a person accused of committing an offense has been committed to the Department of Mental Health due to lack of mental fitness to stand trial, the legal counsel for the department shall have standing to participate in hearings regarding involuntary medications for the accused (Section 552.020).

RESIDENTIAL FACILITY OR DAY FACILITY INSPECTIONS

This bill changes the inspection requirements for residential treatment facilities or day programs for persons who are affected by a mental disorder, mental illness, intellectual disability, or developmental disability. The bill removes the requirement that the written report of noncompliance be sent by certified mail with return receipt requested. Currently, a re-inspection must be conducted within 55 days of the original inspection. This bill extends this deadline to 60 days (Section 630.745).

MENTAL HEALTH EMPLOYEES

This bill exempts the first Sunday of November each year when Daylight Saving Time ends from current law requirements that limit the number of hours a state employee may work in a 24 hour period in certain secured mental health facilities (Section 630.945).

Provisions of this bill are the same as HBs 2716, 1970, and 2611 (2018).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will allow mental health employees to work an extra hour for the daylight savings time change. Currently, the Governor has to declare a temporary state

of emergency to allow the mental health employees to work the extra hour during the daylight savings time change.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Riddle and Rick Gowdy, Missouri Department of Mental Health.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.