

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE BILL 191

**55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Lopez

AN ACT

RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH; REQUIRING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A BRIDGES ACROSS NEW MEXICO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** [NEW MATERIAL] BRIDGES ACROSS NEW MEXICO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM--CREATION--MEMBERSHIP--DUTIES.--

A. The human services department shall convene a "bridges across New Mexico behavioral health consortium" that includes bipartisan representation from the house of representatives and the senate from the northern, central and southern regions of the state; representatives from the New Mexico congressional delegation; representatives from the administrative office of the courts; representatives from the business sector from the northern, central and southern

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 regions, which shall include planners and architects, and  
2 representatives from organizations whose primary functions are  
3 behavioral health, housing and homeless services. The  
4 consortium shall function from the date of its appointment  
5 until December 1, 2022.

6 B. Members of the bridges across New Mexico  
7 behavioral health consortium who are not paid with public money  
8 are entitled to per diem and mileage as provided in the Per  
9 Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other compensation,  
10 perquisite or allowance.

11 C. In carrying out its charge, the bridges across  
12 New Mexico behavioral health consortium shall:

13 (1) review potential construction of  
14 residential treatment facilities to help those with substance  
15 use disorders and mental health issues;

16 (2) assess current youth and adult residential  
17 treatment facilities, with a focus on those facilities serving  
18 individuals currently in the court system for substance use,  
19 behavioral health and homelessness, to determine if the current  
20 facilities could be expanded or if new facilities will need to  
21 be built;

22 (3) review current transitional housing, job  
23 development and life skill centers regionally to determine if  
24 these centers could be expanded or if new centers will need to  
25 be built, which centers house those individuals coming out of

.219086.1

1 incarceration, substance use treatment or homelessness due to  
2 reasons other than behavioral health and for families who need  
3 safer longer-term housing than a short-term shelter could  
4 provide. A focus will be on centers that combine life skills,  
5 educational and vocational support to ensure that individuals  
6 will be successful and self-sufficient when those individuals  
7 reenter community life;

8 (4) develop a drug prevention program for  
9 first through twelfth grade public school students, which may  
10 include volunteers from the community in a speaker series and  
11 other age-appropriate programs;

12 (5) review current laws regarding driving  
13 while intoxicated and compare them to cities and states that  
14 have the lowest rates of driving while intoxicated and assess  
15 if higher penalties will be needed for driving while  
16 intoxicated offenders; and

17 (6) discuss availability of regional substance  
18 use counseling programs for offenders.

19 D. The bridges across New Mexico behavioral health  
20 consortium shall hold monthly regional meetings beginning after  
21 the effective date of this act to discuss the items outlined in  
22 Subsection C of this section. In August 2022, two statewide  
23 meetings shall be held in Albuquerque to discuss findings and  
24 recommendations from the regional meetings and approve a  
25 statewide action plan.

