1	HOUSE BILL 225
2	48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Nathan P. Cote
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10	AN ACT
11	RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH; REQUIRING THE HUMAN SERVICES
12	DEPARTMENT TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN QUICK RESPONSE TEAMS STATEWIDE
13	FOR USE WITH PERSONS WHO ARE EXPERIENCING AN URGENT NEED FOR
14	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.
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16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
17	Section 1. A new section of Chapter 9, Article 8 NMSA
18	1978 is enacted to read:
19	"[ <u>NEW MATERIAL</u> ] SHORT TITLEThis act may be cited as the
20	"Quick Response Team Act"."
21	Section 2. A new section of Chapter 9, Article 8 NMSA
22	1978 is enacted to read:
23	"[ <u>NEW MATERIAL</u> ] DEFINITIONSAs used in the Quick
24	Response Team Act:
25	A. "peer support specialist" means a person who has
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1 previously experienced urgent behavioral health needs and 2 recovered and who has successfully completed training 3 qualifying that person to work with a person who experiences an 4 urgent need for behavioral health support;

"quick response team" means a team consisting of Β. at least one trained peer support specialist or community health care worker, a licensed behavioral health professional and a paramedic; and

C. "urgent need for behavioral health support" 10 means an incident in which a person experiences a critical need 11 for emotional, psychological or behavioral health 12 intervention."

Section 3. A new section of Chapter 9, Article 8 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING .--

The department shall recruit, train and certify Α. peer support specialists and health care workers for quick response teams statewide and shall match them throughout the state with behavioral health professionals and paramedics on contract with the department. Qualifications and certification of quick response team members may be detailed in rule by the department.

Β. The department shall train members of a quick response team in:

(1) recognizing mental and behavioral health .171473.1

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1 disorders, which include: 2 (a) schizophrenia; 3 (b) schizoaffective disorder; 4 (c) bipolar disorder with or without 5 psychotic features; 6 (d) brain injury and associated 7 disorders; 8 post-traumatic stress disorder; and (e) 9 (f) major depressive disorder with or 10 without psychotic features; 11 (2) nonviolent, noncoercive de-escalation 12 techniques; 13 cultural competency and race relations; (3) 14 (4) techniques that foster reconciliation 15 between persons in crisis and their families and friends; 16 (5) using safe, humane and effective 17 approaches to treating or coping with mental and behavioral 18 health disorders: and 19 (6) how to access and cooperate with available 20 health, social service and emergency resources in the area. 21 C. The department shall offer intervention through 22 a quick response team, where appropriate, for a person 23 experiencing an urgent need for behavioral health support, 24 especially when the presence of an armed law enforcement 25 officer may cause alarm or an escalation of tensions. .171473.1 - 3 -

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1 D. The department shall provide by rule for 2 qualifications for certification as a quick response team 3 member and for continuing education requirements. 4 The department may coordinate quick response Ε. 5 teams from a base in a safe house or other community-based 6 center." 7 Section 4. A new section of Chapter 9, Article 8 NMSA 8 1978 is enacted to read: 9 "[NEW MATERIAL] EDUCATION AND OUTREACH .-- The department 10 shall extend information on quick response team availability 11 and services to "warm lines", suicide hot lines and 911 12 operators so that responders may elect to use a quick response 13 team rather than a law enforcement officer in an initial 14 contact with a person experiencing an urgent need for 15 behavioral health support." 16 Section 5. APPROPRIATION. -- One million dollars 17 (\$1,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the human 18 services department for expenditure in fiscal year 2009 to 19 recruit and train quick response teams pursuant to the Quick 20 Response Team Act and publicize their existence statewide. Any 21 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 22 fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund. 23 - 4 -

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