

HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 151

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

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
shall convene professionally facilitated meetings in each of
the six state transportation commission districts. The
consortium shall include bipartisan representation from the
house of representatives and the senate; representatives from
the New Mexico congressional delegation; representatives from
the administrative office of the courts, including local

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1 judges; representatives from the business sector, which shall
2 include planners and architects; and representatives from
3 organizations whose primary functions are behavioral health and
4 long-term transitional housing. Representatives from
5 organizations whose primary functions are behavioral health and
6 long-term transitional housing and representatives from state
7 agencies shall not constitute more than forty-nine percent of
8 the consortium membership. The consortium shall function from
9 the date of its appointment until December 1, 2022.

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

12 (1) review construction and repurposing of
13 existing buildings for the purpose of creating residential
14 treatment facilities and long-term transitional housing. The
15 facilities shall help those with substance use disorders and
16 mental health issues and those individuals leaving
17 incarceration, substance use treatment or homelessness due to
18 reasons other than behavioral health and for families who need
19 safer longer-term housing than a short-term shelter could
20 provide. A focus shall be on centers that combine life skills,
21 educational and vocational support to ensure that individuals
22 will be successful and self-sufficient when those individuals
23 reenter community life;

24 (2) assess current youth and adult residential
25 treatment facilities, with a focus on those facilities serving

1 individuals currently in the court system for substance use,
2 behavioral health and homelessness, to determine if the current
3 facilities could be expanded or if new facilities will need to
4 be built;

5 (3) in consultation with the public education
6 department, develop an evidence-based drug prevention program
7 for first through twelfth grade public school students, which
8 shall include age- and developmentally appropriate content;

9 (4) review current laws regarding driving
10 while intoxicated, their penalties and enforcement and compare
11 them to cities that have the lowest rates of driving while
12 intoxicated; and

13 (5) assist regionally in implementing the
14 statewide action plan.

15 C. The bridges across New Mexico behavioral health
16 consortium shall hold meetings in each of the six state
17 transportation commission districts beginning after the
18 effective date of this 2021 act to discuss the items outlined
19 in Subsection B of this section. On or before August 2022,
20 statewide meetings shall be held in Albuquerque to discuss
21 findings and recommendations from the regional meetings and
22 approve a draft statewide action plan.

23 D. The human services department shall contract
24 with and hire a professional behavioral health policy agency
25 that shall schedule and facilitate meetings of the consortium

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1 and compile the consortium's findings and recommendations into
2 a draft statewide action plan. The draft statewide action plan
3 shall also contain provisions on existing funding in cities and
4 counties, the need for potential funding and ways to receive
5 funding and a determination of the most equitable and effective
6 use of funds with a priority for programs and building
7 projects.

8 E. The draft statewide action plan shall be
9 presented at a meeting of the interagency behavioral health
10 purchasing collaborative. The professional behavioral health
11 policy agency shall prepare a final plan in consideration of
12 any comments received from the interagency behavioral health
13 purchasing collaborative and community input from the district
14 meetings.

15 F. On or before November 1, 2022, the final
16 statewide action plan shall be presented or distributed to the
17 interim legislative health and human services committee, the
18 legislative finance committee, the secretary of human services
19 and the secretary of health.

20 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Two hundred fifty thousand
21 dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
22 human services department for expenditure in fiscal years 2022
23 and 2023 to contract with a professional behavioral health
24 policy agency to develop a statewide action plan to present to
25 the human services department and the legislature. Any

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1 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
2 fiscal year 2023 shall revert to the general fund.

3 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
4 provisions of this act is July 1, 2021.

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