

Chapter 1238

S.B. No. 1305

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation of a rural veterans mental health
3 initiative within the mental health intervention program for
4 veterans.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 1001.202, Health and Safety Code, as
7 added by Chapter 352 (H.B. 2392), Acts of the 83rd Legislature,
8 Regular Session, 2013, and amended by S.B. No. 219, Acts of the 84th
9 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

10 Sec. 1001.202. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The
11 department shall develop a mental health intervention program for
12 veterans. The program must include:

- 13 (1) peer-to-peer counseling;
- 14 (2) access to licensed mental health professionals for
15 volunteer coordinators and peers;
- 16 (3) training approved by the department for peers;
- 17 (4) technical assistance for volunteer coordinators
18 and peers;
- 19 (5) grants to regional and local organizations
20 providing services under this subchapter;
- 21 (6) recruitment, retention, and screening of
22 community-based therapists;
- 23 (7) suicide prevention training for volunteer
24 coordinators and peers; and

1 (8) veteran jail diversion services, including
2 veterans courts.

3 (a-2) As part of the mental health intervention program for
4 veterans, the department shall develop a rural veterans mental
5 health initiative.

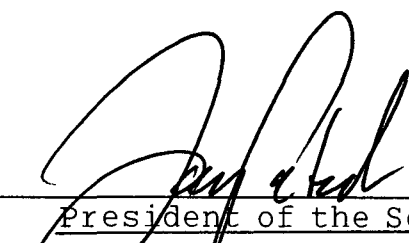
6 (b) The department shall solicit and ensure that
7 specialized training is provided to persons who are peers and who
8 want to provide peer-to-peer counseling or other peer-to-peer
9 services under the program.

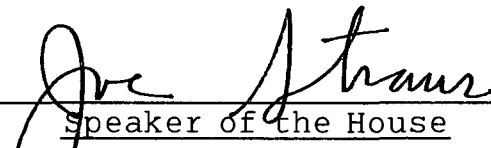
10 (c) The executive commissioner may adopt rules necessary to
11 implement this subchapter.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

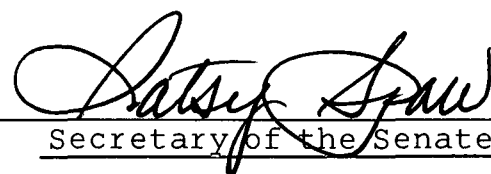
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S.B. No. 1305

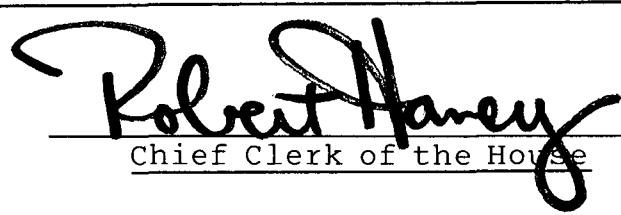

President of the Senate


Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1305 passed the Senate on April 29, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 28, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0. _____


Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1305 passed the House, with amendment, on May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 136, Nays 4, two present not voting. _____



Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

6-14-2015
Date


Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
6:30 pm O'CLOCK

JUN 19 2015

Secretary of State

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 17, 2015

TO: Honorable Susan Lewis King, Chair, House Committee on Defense & Veterans' Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1305 by Menéndez (Relating to the creation of a rural veterans mental health initiative within the mental health intervention program for veterans.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Health and Safety Code relating to the development of a mental health intervention program for veterans. The bill would require the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to develop a rural veterans mental health initiative. DSHS and the Veterans Commission indicate that provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 403 Veterans Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

LBB Staff: UP, FR, SS, VJC, KPe

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 5, 2015

TO: Honorable Susan Lewis King, Chair, House Committee on Defense & Veterans' Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1305 by Menéndez (Relating to the creation of a rural veterans mental health initiative within the mental health intervention program for veterans.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

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**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 31, 2015

TO: Honorable Donna Campbell, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1305 by Menéndez (Relating to the creation of a rural veterans mental health initiative within the mental health intervention program for veterans.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

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