

May 2, 2014

2013-2014 Legislative Session

Legislative News is a publication prepared and distributed by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (DMH) Office of Public Affairs to keep you informed of bills introduced in the General Assembly that may affect the DMH, mental health, health care issues, or employee issues. In addition, we will provide budget information and general news from the General Assembly. You can also access the complete bills online by clicking the link at the end of each description, OR visiting <http://www.scstatehouse.gov>.

This publication is also available on the DMH Internet and Intranet sites. However, if you do not have access to the site and wish to receive a copy of the update, call us, and we will send you one in the mail. If at any time you have questions or need more information about bills or other legislative issues, contact the Office of Public Affairs at (803) 898-8581 or TLL06@scdmh.org. **In order to streamline *Legislative News*, we have removed from the summary bills that did not cross chambers by May 1.**

Budget Update

The House adopted the Ways & Means Committee's recommendation. The Senate Finance Committee met the week of April 7 to discuss recommendations to the full Senate. **Please note: the Senate Finance Committee data below is preliminary.**

FY 2015 BUDGET COMPARISON

	DMH Budget Request	Governor's Rec.	House	Senate Finance*
OPERATING REQUEST				
Sustainability of Mental Health Services	\$16,900,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,500,000	\$10,500,000
Forensics Inpatient Services	\$2,800,000	\$1,450,000	\$ -	\$ -
School Based Services	\$1,000,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,000,000
Assessment and Resource Center (ARC)	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$ -	\$200,000
Community Supportive Housing Placement	\$1,500,000	\$800,000	\$ -	\$ -
Center-to-Center Telepsychiatry	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$ -	\$250,000
Crisis Services	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$ -	\$ -
Telepsychiatry Program Sustainability	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$ -	\$500,000
Sexually Violent Predator Treatment Program	\$1,000,000	\$600,000	\$ -	\$ -
Information Network Security Improvements	\$728,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OPERATING REQUEST TOTAL	\$25,178,000	\$9,100,000	\$10,500,000	\$12,450,000
CAPITAL REQUEST				
Santee-Wateree MHC Construction	\$9,856,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Anderson-Oconee-Pickens MHC Construction	\$9,592,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Catawba MHC Construction	\$10,580,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Community Buildings Deferred Maintenance	\$3,663,630	\$500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Harris HVAC Renovations	\$8,100,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inpatient and Support Buildings Deferred Maint.	\$7,564,000	\$1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
Columbia Area MHC Construction	\$2,500,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Campbell VA Nursing Home Renovations	\$962,500 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CAPITAL REQUEST TOTAL	\$52,818,130	\$1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
ONE-TIME FUNDING REQUEST				
Physical Plant Replacement of Vehicles	\$694,114 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inpatient Electronic Medical Record	\$4,905,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000
Pharmaceutical Automated Dispensing Machine	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
Law Enforcement Vehicles	\$176,407 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Information Network Security Improvements	\$1,928,000 \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ONE-TIME FUNDING REQUEST TOTAL	\$8,703,521	\$1,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000
GRAND TOTAL REQUEST	\$86,699,651	\$11,600,000	\$12,750,000	\$14,700,000

Senate Bills – Click the bill number to view full text.

764 Vulnerable Adult Guardian Ad Litem Program (Alexander, Cromer and Malloy)

This bill would create a Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem program within the Office on Aging to recruit, train, and supervise volunteers to serve as court appointed guardians ad litem for vulnerable adults in abuse, neglect, and exploitation proceedings.

Sent to the House 2/27/14, House read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee 3/4/14.

872 Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children (Fair, Hutto, Jackson and L. Martin)

This bill would make the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children a permanent joint committee.

Sent to the House 3/5/14, House read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee, 3/6/14.

House Bills – Click the bill number to view full text.

3024 Child abuse (McCoy, Henderson and Long)

This legislation requires any person in this state to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Passed the House; referred to Senate Judiciary Committee, 5/28/13, Referred to Subcommittee: Coleman (ch), Shealy, Turner, 2/11/14.

3098 Long-Term Care Facilities (Spires)

This bill requires the resident of a community residential care facility to provide the facility administrator written notice of the resident's intent to voluntarily relocate to another community residential care facility. The written notice must be given not less than thirty days before the resident relocates. The facility administrator may charge the equivalent of thirty days occupancy for failure to give this notice.

Passed the House; referred to Senate Medical Affairs Committee, 5/15/13. Received favorable Committee report, with amendment, 5/01/14.

3124 Protections for Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect (Bingham, Taylor, Long and M.S. McLeod)

This legislation provides a civil cause of action for reinstatement and back pay against any employer who dismisses, demotes, suspends, or otherwise disciplines or discriminates against an employee for reporting child abuse or neglect.

Passed the House; referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary, 5/1/13. Returned to House with amendments, 4/16/14. Returned to Senate with amendment, 5/01/14.

3365 Mental Health Counseling (Govan, Jefferson and Williams)

This bill was amended to provide for a school safety task force to study and make recommendations for the provision of mental health services in schools.

Passed the House, 1/16/14; referred to the Senate Committee on Education, 1/21/14.

3567 Mental Health Treatment for Children (Horne)

This bill adds the term "young adults" in the definition of children and adolescents who are in need of mental health treatment in a residential facility. The bill also increases the eligibility age from under 18 to under 21.

Passed the House, 5/01/13; Senate referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs, 5/02/13. Received favorable Committee report 5/01/14.

4347 Children's Advocacy Medical Response System Act (L. Martin, Lourie and Shealy)

This bill would create the South Carolina Children's Advocacy Medical Response System, which will provide coordination and medical service resources statewide to agencies and entities that respond to victims of child abuse and neglect.

H4347 Ratified 4/03/14; signed by Governor Haley and effective 4/07/14.

4550 Long Term Health Care Administrators (Parks)

This bill would amend the law relating to long term health care administrators, including revisions to their licensure criteria (education and training) and prohibiting a person from serving as a nursing home or residential care facility administrator without a license.

Sent to Senate, 3/6/14; Senate introduced, read first time, referred to Committee on Medical Affairs, 3/11/14.