

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

HOUSE BILL HB2047_

By: Seikel

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to mental health; amending Section 2, Chapter 270, O.S.L. 1999 (43A O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 3-101.2), which relates to reduction of number of patients at Eastern State Hospital; clarifying language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 270, O.S.L. 1999 (43A O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 3-101.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-101.2 The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall reduce the number of patients treated at Eastern State Hospital in accordance with the following principles:

1. Each community mental health center in the Eastern State Hospital service area contracting with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall be responsible for all care, both inpatient and outpatient, of persons with serious mental illness in the ~~contractor's~~ service area of the contractor, as defined by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services;

2. Persons with serious mental illness shall be treated in local communities, or as close to the residence of these persons as possible;

3. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall fund contracts with community mental health centers on an equitable basis;

4. During the transition period described in Section ~~±~~ 3-101.1 of this ~~act~~ title, no treatment shall be interrupted nor shall any person be prematurely discharged from Eastern State Hospital;

5. During the transition period, staffing at Eastern State Hospital shall remain at levels adequate to treat patients until they are properly discharged;

6. Savings from reduced staffing levels and reduced operating costs at Eastern State Hospital shall be reinvested into community-based mental health services in the Eastern State Hospital service area.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2000.

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