

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1155

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILL

MENTAL HEALTH: Provides conditions for licensing of therapeutic group homes for youth suffering from mental illness

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:2009(D), relative to licensure of therapeutic group homes; to require parish  
3 governing authority approval as a condition for licensure of such group homes in  
4 certain parishes; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 40:2009(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §2009. Mandatory accreditation of facilities participating in the Medicaid  
8 Residential Treatment Option; local approval required for therapeutic group  
9 homes in certain parishes

10 \* \* \*

11 D.(1) In addition to the licensing requirements for therapeutic group homes  
12 provided in Chapter 62 of Subpart 3 of Part I of Title 48 of the Louisiana  
13 Administrative Code, the Department of Health and Hospitals shall require, as a  
14 condition of licensure, that any person or entity seeking to establish and operate a  
15 therapeutic group home in any parish listed in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection have  
16 the approval of the governing authority of the parish in which the group home is  
17 intended to be located. The parish governing authority may grant such approval only  
18 after providing an opportunity for public comment concerning the application for  
19 licensure of the group home.

- 1           (2) The requirements provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall  
 2           apply only in the following parishes:
- 3           (a) A parish with a population of more than twenty-five thousand and less  
 4           than twenty-six thousand according to the latest federal decennial census.
- 5           (b) A parish with a population of more than thirty-five thousand and less  
 6           than thirty-five thousand seven hundred according to the latest federal decennial  
 7           census.
- 8           (c) A parish with a population of more than fifty-two thousand two hundred  
 9           and less than fifty-two thousand seven hundred according to the latest federal  
 10           decennial census.

#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Hill

HB No. 1155

**Abstract:** Makes approval of the parish governing authority in which the home is to be located, a condition of licensure for therapeutic group homes for youth suffering from mental illness.

Present law provides relative to licensure by the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) of facilities delivering residential supports and services through the Medicaid Residential Treatment Option to youth suffering from mental illness.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that, as a condition of licensure, any person or entity seeking to establish and operate a therapeutic group home in certain specified parishes shall have the approval of the governing authority of the parish in which the group home is intended to be located. Additionally provides that the parish governing authority may grant such approval only after providing an opportunity for public comment concerning the application for licensure of the group home.

Proposed law applies only in the following parishes:

- (1) A parish with a population of more than 25,000 and less than 26,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.
- (2) A parish with a population of more than 35,000 and less than 35,700 according to the latest federal decennial census.
- (3) A parish with a population of more than 52,200 and less than 52,700 according to the latest federal decennial census.

(Adds R.S. 40:2009(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Added provision limiting applicability of proposed law to only the following parishes:
  - (a) A parish with a population of more than 25,000 and less than 26,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.
  - (b) A parish with a population of more than 35,000 and less than 35,700 according to the latest federal decennial census.
  - (c) A parish with a population of more than 52,200 and less than 52,700 according to the latest federal decennial census.
2. Made technical changes.