

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Carter, Kruse, Courtney, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Gordly
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/12, 4/9, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines the term “consumer” used in bill. Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop a policy that supports and promotes self-determination. Requires DHS to establish a Consumer Advisory Council within an organizational unit of DHS that addresses mental health services. Allows council to review, evaluate and provide feedback on all mental health services site reviews. Requires director to appoint 15 to 25 consumers to council, for DHS to provide administrative support and for council members to receive compensation and expenses. Requires DHS to establish the Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA) within an organizational unit of DHS that addresses mental health services, to promote, to provide training and technical assistance to consumer groups. Requires OCA to provide networking and technical assistance among regional consumer groups; provide quality assurance and technical oversight to publicly funded mental health programs with respect to consumer participation; evaluate efficacy of supporting evidence for desirability of available mental health services with respect to individuals receiving these services; monitor delivery of peer services and peer credentialed services and impact of delivery of evidence-based services in peer delivery settings; evaluate and report to directory regarding statutory provision on the availability of consumer directed services and consumer choice; and, provide other services as necessary. Requires DHS to provide administrative support to office. Establishes Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health Consumers in DHS. Requires DHS director, in concurrence with Governor, to appoint ombudsman for mental health consumers per the availability of funds. Establishes experience and criterion for ombudsman. Requires ombudsman to provide information and assistance to consumers and report to the Governors in writing at least one time each quarter. Requires all task forces, commissions and advisory groups established as public bodies on mental health and addiction services, except as otherwise required by law, to consist of at least 20 percent consumers. Allows DHS to adopt rules to implement program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Local community mental health services

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS), in the Department of Human Services, is the state’s primary agency for mental health and addiction treatment and prevention programs. OMHAS is responsible for planning and policy development for mental health, alcohol/drug and gambling addiction services, overseeing community services such as detoxification, residential treatment, outpatient counseling as well as prevention/education, quality assurance and licensing.