

AN ACT

1 Providing for a psychiatric bed registry.

2 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 hereby enacts as follows:

4 Section 1. Short title.

5 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Psychiatric
6 Bed Registry Act.

7 Section 2. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
9 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Bed registry." The psychiatric bed registry established
12 under this act.

13 "Department." The Department of Human Services of the
14 Commonwealth.

15 "Facility." An inpatient psychiatric hospital licensed to
16 provide acute care.

17 Section 3. Registry.

1 (a) Development.--The department shall develop and
2 administer an Internet-based psychiatric bed registry to
3 collect, aggregate and display information about available beds
4 in public and private facilities for the treatment of
5 individuals in need of inpatient psychiatric hospitalization.

6 (b) Contents.--The bed registry shall include, but not be
7 limited to, the following:

8 (1) Descriptive information for facilities in this
9 Commonwealth, including contact information for the
10 facilities.

11 (2) Real-time information, updated at least daily,
12 regarding the number of beds available at a facility and, for
13 each available bed, the type of patient that may be admitted,
14 the level of security provided and other information that may
15 be necessary to allow for the identification of appropriate
16 facilities for the care of individuals in need of psychiatric
17 hospitalization.

18 (3) A search function to identify available beds that
19 are appropriate for the treatment of individuals experiencing
20 a mental health emergency.

21 (c) Participation requirement.--A facility shall participate
22 in the bed registry established under this act and shall
23 designate an employee for every shift to report information for
24 inclusion in the bed registry. The designated employees shall
25 serve as a point of contact for addressing requests for
26 information related to data reported to the bed registry. The
27 designated employees shall update daily the information reported
28 to the bed registry.

29 (d) Facility requirements.--In order to be eligible to
30 participate in the registry, a facility must:

1 (1) Report information specified under subsection (b) to
2 the bed registry, including providing daily real-time
3 information.

4 (2) Arrange for the facility's contact information to be
5 monitored and accessed at any time in accordance with the
6 department's regulations promulgated under section 4.

7 (e) Private contract.--The department may enter into a
8 contract with a private entity for the development and
9 administration of the bed registry.

10 Section 4. Regulations.

11 The department shall promulgate regulations necessary to
12 implement this act.

13 Section 5. Effective date.

14 This act shall take effect in 60 days.