

1 H.969

2 Representative Donahue of Northfield moves that the bill be amended in by
3 striking out Sec. E.314.2, mental health outreach; statewide scale; Department
4 of Mental Health; Department of Public Safety, in its entirety and inserting a
5 new Sec. E.314.2 in lieu thereof as follows:

6 Sec. E.314.2 MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH; STATEWIDE SCALE;
7 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; DEPARTMENT OF
8 PUBLIC SAFETY

9 (a)(1) The sum of \$525,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to
10 the Department of Mental Health in fiscal year 2021 for collaboration with the
11 Department of Public Safety and other stakeholders, including individuals with
12 lived experience of a mental health condition or psychiatric disability and those
13 whose identities cause them to experience additional marginalization, in
14 expanding regional models that strengthen partnerships between law
15 enforcement, mental health, and social services through clinical staff positions
16 that address crisis response to mental health emergencies. The purpose of the
17 program is to enhance the ability statewide to provide safe, appropriate crisis
18 responses that reduce involvement of law enforcement when those supports are
19 not necessary for public safety, and that ensure strong coordination when those
20 supports are necessary, and to improve access to services and supports for
21 individuals with mental health needs in the community.

1 (2) To the extent possible, in hiring individuals to carry out the purposes
2 of this section, the designated and specialized service agencies providing the
3 services shall give priority to qualified individuals with lived experience of
4 mental illness.

5 (b) On or before November 15, 2020, the Departments of Mental Health
6 and of Public Safety shall provide a status report to the Health Reform
7 Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee
8 on the plans for implementing the program set forth in subsection (a) of this
9 section, including:

10 (1) the memoranda of understanding with designated and specialized
11 service agencies;

12 (2) the partners and stakeholders involved in planning the program;

13 (3) the geographic locations identified for new clinical staff resource
14 coverage; and

15 (4) the physical location for planned staffing.

16 (c)(1) The Department of Mental Health shall coordinate further
17 development of a cohesive, statewide approach to mental health emergencies
18 and emergency calls, under the leadership of impacted communities and in
19 collaboration with the Department of Public Safety, designated and specialized
20 service agencies, and the Department of Mental Health’s standing committees

1 for adult and children’s mental health. The approach shall be consistent with
2 the Department’s 10-Year Vision.

3 (2) On or before March 15, 2021, the Department shall report its
4 progress in developing a cohesive, statewide approach to mental health
5 emergencies to the House Committee on Health Care and to the Senate
6 Committee on Health and Welfare.