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NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT Agenda for 89th Texas Legislative Session

September 24October 22, 2024

- 1) InvestmentAdditional investment in Graduate Medical Education (GME) residency programs training:
 - <u>a)</u> <u>Texas Legislature:</u>
 - i) Increase Medicaid GME supplemental payments:
 - (a) Work with local legislative delegation, in conjunction with CHRISTUS
 Spohn, to appropriate additional funds or direct additional funds via state
 budget riders for benefit of Spohn's emergency medicine graduate medical
 education programs including, without limitation, Spohn's emergency
 medicine graduate medical program.
 - b) a) Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:
 - i) Achieve State's goal of 1.1-to-1 ratio of Texas residency positions to medical school graduates.
 - (a) Establish funding for existing training slots.
 - (b) Increase funding for new training slots.
 - (c) Incentivize opening of new training slots.
 - <u>c)</u> <u>b)</u>Health and Human Services Commission:
 - i) Increase Medicaid GME supplemental payments:
 - (a) For non-government-owned teaching hospitals.
 - (b) Per slot increase.
 - (c) Recover additional costs of existing slots.
- Increase number of law enforcement officers with specialized providing crisis intervention trainingservices:

a) Mental Health Deputy:

i) Acquire NCHD authority to operate mental health deputy program through hiring/contracting of already-commissioned peace officers.

- <u>a)</u> <u>b)</u>Commissioned Peace Officers:
 - i) Work with local legislative delegation to establish strategies aimed at increasing the number of commissioned peace officers providing crisis intervention services.
 - i) Amend Health & Safety 281.057 and 2.12 Code of Criminal Procedure:
 - a. Add NCHD as additional hospital district with authority to hire peace officers.
 b. Add NCHD-specific language permitting NCHD-commissioned peace officers'
 - authority to additionally:
 - (a) Perform mental health deputy duties within the District.
 - (b) Establish and participate in Crisis Intervention Teams within the District.
 - (c) Establish and participate in Crisis Intervention Teams within the District with
 - Local Mental Health Authority in Extended Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams.
- 3) Establish regional state-supported facilities for mental health issues in Nueces County for the following:

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- a) Adults
- b) Children
- c) <u>PeoplePersons</u> involved with the justice system.

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- 4) Reduce deficit of essential medical specialties in Nueces County.
 - a) Create categories of "essential medical specialties" for Texas counties.
 - a. Create "startup" benefits for physicians and mid-level providers to practice in each category.
 - (a) Reduce loan obligations.
 - (b) Discount malpractice premiums.
 - (c) Create malpractice limitations.
 - (d) Provide malpractice immunities.
 - (e) Guarantee or subsidize incomes.
 - (f) Subsidize housing.

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