

# DRAFT

## NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT Agenda for 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session

September 24, 2024

- 1) Investment in Graduate Medical Education (GME) residency programs training:
  - 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.
  - b) 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.
- 2) Increase number of law enforcement officers with specialized crisis intervention training:
  - a) Mental Health Deputy:
    - i) Acquire NCHD authority to operate mental health deputy program through hiring/contracting of already-commissioned peace officers.
  - b) Commissioned Peace Officers:
    - 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:
  - a) Adults
  - b) Children
  - c) People involved with the justice system.
- 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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