

Floor Amendment to HB 1565-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT establishing a commission to examine issues relative to accreditation of the secure
4 psychiatric unit and requires certain reports.

5

6 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

7

8 1 New Section; Commission to Examine Issues Relative to Accreditation of the Secure
9 Psychiatric Unit. Amend RSA 21-H by inserting after section 8-a the following new section:

10 21-H:8-b Commission Established. There is established a commission to examine issues
11 relative to accreditation of the secure psychiatric unit.

12 I. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

13 (a) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

14 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
15 house of representatives.

16 (c) The commissioner of the department of corrections, or designee.

17 (d) The attorney general, or designee.

18 (e) The executive director of New Futures, or designee.

19 (f) A representative of the National Alliance on Mental Illness New Hampshire,
20 appointed by the alliance.

21 (g) The chief executive officer of the New Hampshire hospital, or designee.

22 (h) A representative of the Community Behavioral Health Association, appointed by
23 the association.

24 (i) Two members of the community who have an interest in patient rights, appointed by
25 the governor.

26 II. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when
27 attending to the duties of the commission.

28 III.(a) The commission's study shall include, but not be limited to:

29 (1) Reviewing organizations providing accreditation of facilities similar to the secure
30 psychiatric unit.

31 (2) Analyzing the types of accreditation available from these organizations, such as
32 psychiatric hospitals, behavioral health facilities, and mental health services facilities.

33 (3) Costs and time lines for accreditation.

Floor Amendment to HB 1565-FN
- Page 2 -

1 (b) The commission may solicit information from any person or entity the commission
2 deems relevant to its study.

3 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.
4 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the senate member. The first meeting of the
5 commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven members of the
6 commission shall constitute a quorum.

7 V. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
8 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
9 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

10 2 Secure Psychiatric Unit; Treatment Standards. Amend RSA 622:46, I to read as follows:

11 I. The commissioner shall establish clinical and treatment standards for the operation of
12 the unit in consultation with the commissioner of the department of health and human services.
13 The commissioners shall review, at least [~~annually~~] **biennially**, any interagency agreements and
14 the mental health program at the unit to determine which provisions, standards, or practices should
15 be revised to improve treatment. ***The commissioner shall submit a report of its findings in***
16 ***each even-numbered year, commencing on or before November 1, 2020, to the speaker of***
17 ***the house of representatives, the senate president, the governor, and the chairpersons of***
18 ***the house committees having jurisdiction over criminal justice issues and health and***
19 ***human services issues, and the chairpersons of the senate committees having jurisdiction***
20 ***over judicial issues and health and human services issues.***

21 3 Repeal. RSA 21-H:8-b, relative to the commission to examine issues relative to accreditation
22 of the secure psychiatric unit.

23 4 Effective Date.

24 I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2018.

25 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Floor Amendment to HB 1565-FN
- Page 3 -

2018-1874s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to examine issues relative to accreditation of the secure psychiatric unit. The bill also requires the commissioner of the department of health and human services to submit a biennial report in even-numbered years of its findings as to whether certain provisions, standards, or practices should be revised to improve treatment at the secure psychiatric unit.