

**Bill No.:** HB0031 **Effective:** 7/1/2020 12:00:00 AM

**LSO No.:** 20LSO-0295

**Enrolled Act No.:** HEA No. 0062

**Chapter No.:** 152

**Prime Sponsor:** Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Interim Committee

**Catch Title:** **Criminal justice-mental health-substance use programming.**

**Subject:** Mental health and substance abuse in the corrections system.

**Summary/Major Elements:**

- The act requires coordination between the Department of Health and the Department of Corrections to develop new programs that improve mental health and substance use treatment for persons involved in the correctional system. The purpose is to reduce recidivism rates. The act requires:
  - The creation of a behavioral health services enhancement program for community behavioral health providers through contracts administered by the Department of Health;
  - The adoption of standardized, evidence based treatment practices;
  - To the extent allowed by law, efforts to permit and require the portability and universal recognition of mental health and substance use disorder assessment tools; and
  - The creation of competitive and outcome based funding streams for behavioral health providers to expand services, improve quality and increase provider training.
- The act requires the Department of Corrections to create a quality improvement unit to regularly monitor the administration and use of assessment tools. The Department must report to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee on the creation, progress and work of the new unit by September 1 of each year through 2023.

**Comments:**

- The act appropriates three hundred twenty-four thousand three hundred eighty dollars (\$324,380.00) from the general fund to the Department of Corrections to fund its new quality improvement unit.
- The Department of Corrections must provide reports as described above.

The above summary is not an official publication of the Wyoming Legislature and is not an official statement of legislative intent. While the Legislative Service Office endeavored to provide accurate information in this summary, it should not be relied upon as a comprehensive abstract of the bill.