

The Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007 H.R. 3992

Purpose

To promote public safety and community health by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems in diverting individuals with mental illness from the criminal and juvenile justice systems and in treating such individuals within those systems.

Bill Highlights

- ***Reauthorization of the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act.*** The bill reauthorizes the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment program and increases the level of funding to \$75 million per year.
- ***Law enforcement response to mentally ill offenders improvement grants.*** Authorizes \$10 million per year for grants to States and units of local government for 1) programs that offer law enforcement personnel specialized and comprehensive training in procedures to identify and respond appropriately to individuals with mental illnesses, and 2) provide for the development of specialized receiving centers to assess individuals in the custody of law enforcement personnel for mental health and substance abuse treatment needs.
- ***Effective treatment of female offenders with mental illnesses.*** Authorizes \$5 million for grants to States and units of local government to provide 1) mental health treatment to offenders with mental illnesses, 2) intensive case management services, 3) family support services needed to ensure the maintenance of a relationship between the offender and children, and 4) related mental health services for any children of the offender, as needed.
- ***Improving the mental health courts grant program.*** Reauthorizes the Mental Health Court grant program through 2013 at \$10 million per year in grants for mental health courts.
- ***Expanding capabilities and effectiveness of correctional agency identification and treatment plans for mentally ill offenders.*** Authorizes \$10 million for grants to correctional facilities to improve the capacity to provide for inmates who have mental illnesses. Allowable uses also include the standardization of screening and assessment practices to identify inmates with mental illnesses, local task forces to identify essential community services upon the reentry of the population into the community, coordinated planning for the transition of inmates with mental illnesses who are released from correctional facilities and reenter the community, and housing options.
- ***Statewide Planning Grants to Improve Treatment of Mentally Ill Offenders.*** Authorizes \$10 million for grants to States and units of local government to improve the state, county or tribe's capacity to facilitate the coordination of treatment and services by the State and other units of local government. Grant money can be used to develop coordinating centers to 1) facilitate the sharing of information related to treatment and services and 2) promote evidence-based practices for purposes of providing treatment and services.

- ***Study and report on prevalence of mentally ill offenders.*** Authorizes \$2 million for the study of:
 - The rate of occurrence of serious mental illnesses in each of the following populations:
 - a) Individuals on probation.
 - b) Individuals incarcerated in a jail.
 - c) Individuals incarcerated in a prison.
 - d) Individuals on parole.
 - The percentage of individuals with serious mental illnesses who are eligible to receive Supplemental Security Income benefits.
 - The percentage of individuals with serious mental illnesses who have been homeless (as defined in section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)) in the previous year.