HB20-1017 Substance Use Disorders Treatment in the Criminal Justice System

Reps Herod and Kennedy / Sens Donovan and Priola

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This bill:

- Strongly encourages the Department of Corrections and jails to make available opioid agonists and antagonists to a person in custody of an opioid use disorder throughout the duration of their incarceration as medically necessary.
- Provides immunity from arrest or prosecution to a person who disposes of any controlled substances at a safe station, defined as any municipal police station, county sheriff's office, municipal court, or fire protection district fire station. Requires the Office of Behavioral Health to provide information about the crisis hot lines to safe stations for distribution.
- Requires county jails and the Department of Corrections to provide individuals with a substance use disorder post-release resources including a list of available substance use providers from the Office of Behavioral Health upon release from custody.
- Requires county jails and the Department of Corrections to file Medicaid paperwork for an individual before releasing them from custody.
- Allows for sealing of arrest and criminal records if a person has entered into or successfully completed a substance use disorders treatment program.
- Allows the Office of Behavioral Health to require criminal justice programs to participate as a mobile crisis service in the behavioral health crisis response system.
- Requires the Department of Human Services to ensure that mobile response units are available to respond to a behavioral health crisis anywhere in the state within two hours, either face-to-face or through telehealth.



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