

**RÉSUMÉ DIGEST****ACT 591 (HB 763)****2016 Regular Session****Carpenter**

New law defines "intervention and stabilization unit" as a type of crisis receiving center in which a staff of mental health and behavioral health specialists provide a high level of screening and assessment to people experiencing mental health or behavioral health crises. Provides that the purposes of a intervention and stabilization unit include, without limitation, all of the following:

- (1) To properly connect patients experiencing mental health or behavioral health crises to either acute or ongoing community-based treatment.
- (2) To diminish the need in a community for recurrent crisis services for persons suffering from mental illness, substance abuse, or both conditions.
- (3) To serve as a crisis continuum component that assists law enforcement officers, hospital emergency departments, and jails by treating persons with mental health and behavioral health conditions in an appropriate setting.

New law authorizes human services districts and authorities to establish intervention and stabilization units in accordance with the provisions of new law. Provides that subject to appropriation therefor, a human services district or authority may establish and operate an intervention and stabilization unit in any parish that meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) The parish has a population of more than 440,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.
- (2) The parish experienced the closure of a hospital that had been operated by the LSU Health Care Services Division.

New law stipulates that for purposes of licensure, human services districts and authorities are authorized, but not required, to establish any intervention and stabilization unit pursuant to new law as a Level III (freestanding) crisis receiving center.

New law provides that no intervention and stabilization unit shall be established by any human services authority or district unless and until the legislature specifically appropriates funding for this purpose. Provides further that no human services authority or district shall divert any moneys appropriated to it for other purposes to establish or fund an intervention and stabilization unit.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Adds R.S. 28:931 and 932)