

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 79

2021 Regular Session

McMahon

MENTAL HEALTH: Provides relative to treatment facilities for mental health patients

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Adds a provision that requires the geographic location of a public or private behavioral health service provider to include the parish in which the provider's business office is located, any parish contiguous to that office, and within a fifty mile radius of said office.

Present law provides that a treatment facility shall be selected in the following order of priority:

- (1) Medical suitability.
- (2) Least restriction of the person's liberty.
- (3) Nearness to the patient's usual residence.
- (4) Financial or other status of the patient.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that in the selection of the treatment facility a patient's preference shall be the fifth consideration.

Present law provides that a patient may be admitted by an emergency certificate to be diagnosed and treated.

Proposed law provides service locations for certain treatment facilities.

Proposed law requires the geographic location of a public or private behavioral health service provider to include the parish in which the provider's business office is located, any parish contiguous to the office in which the provider's business is located, and within a fifty mile radius of the provider's business office.

(Amends R.S. 28:2(39)(a)(intro. para.) and R.S. 40:2155(B))