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H.B. 515
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Williams

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SUMMARY

- Requires the membership of boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services (ADAMHS boards) to, as nearly as possible, reflect the political party preferences of the alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district served by the board.
- Prohibits ADAMHS boards from denying a community provider contract to or refusing to contract with a for-profit or nonprofit entity, including a faith-based entity, based solely on the entity's for-profit or nonprofit status.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Overview

Boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services (ADAMHS boards) are local boards that plan for mental health and addiction services locally and contract with providers for prevention, treatment, and recovery supports for individuals in need.[1] The bill makes changes to the laws regarding ADAMHS board membership and ADAMHS board contracts with community providers.

Board composition

Current law requires each alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district to have an ADAMHS board. The board must consist of a certain number of members, selected from statutorily enumerated size options by the one or more boards of county commissioners representing the one or more counties constituting the district. All ADAMHS board members

[1] Department of Behavioral Health, ADAMH boards.

must be service district residents. Board membership must, as closely as possible, reflect the composition of the service district population as to race and sex.[2]

The bill modifies ADAMHS board composition by requiring that boards, as nearly as possible, reflect the political party preferences of the service district population, based on state and federal partisan general election results in the service district during the last ten years. It eliminates references to having the board reflect the district composition as to race and sex.[3]

Contracts with providers

Continuing law requires ADAMHS boards to provide a continuum of care for service district residents by contracting with institutional and community providers of addiction services, mental health services, and recovery supports. Specific provisions apply to board contracts with community providers.[4]

The bill narrows the authority of ADAMHS boards to decline to contract with government entities, for-profit entities, or nonprofit entities, including faith-based entities. Specifically, the bill prohibits boards from denying a contract to or refusing to contract with a for-profit entity or nonprofit entity, including a faith-based entity, based solely on the entity's for-profit or nonprofit status.[5]

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-14-25

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[2] R.C. 340.02(A) to (C).

[3] R.C. 340.02(C).

[4] R.C. 340.036(A).

[5] R.C. 340.036(C).