

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Procuring Behavioral Health and Public Health Residential Care and Treatment Services]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to authorize the Department of Public Health to procure behavioral health and public health residential care and treatment services for patients of the Department without adhering to the competitive solicitation or Local Business Enterprise requirements of the Municipal Code.

Existing Law

The proposed ordinance has not previously been codified.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would authorize the Department of Public Health (DPH) to directly purchase services from entities that provide either behavioral health residential care and treatment services or public health residential care services. The proposed ordinance would waive any competitive solicitation or local business enterprise requirements associated with procuring such services. DPH would be required to provide an annual report to the Health Commission regarding the department's utilization of such services. Finally, the proposed ordinance would sunset after five years.

Background Information

To carry out the Treatment on Demand Act and the Mental Health SF program, DPH contracts with entities that provide residential care and treatment services, including but not limited to residential care facilities, board and care facilities, mental rehabilitation centers, withdrawal management facilities, and residential treatment facilities. Such facilities provide beds, behavioral health treatment, medication, and counseling for DPH patients with behavioral health and substance abuse needs. DPH also procures services for patients with urgent public health needs, such as those with an infectious or contagious disease in need of isolation or quarantine. DPH continues to experience waitlists for behavioral health programs and the proposed ordinance would allow the department to quickly procure services from readily available service providers.