

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

MAY 28, 2015

Date

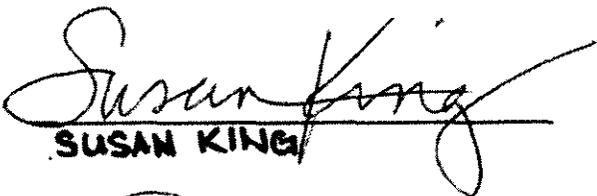
Honorable Dan Patrick  
President of the Senate

Honorable Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

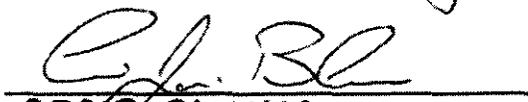
Sirs:

We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on SB 55 have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

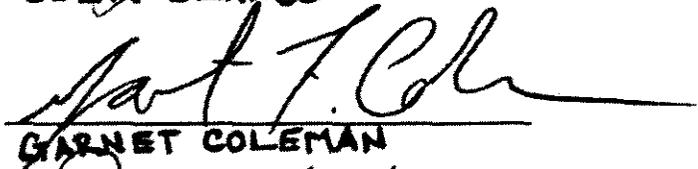
  
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JANE NELSON

  
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SUSAN KING

  
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DONNA CAMPBELL

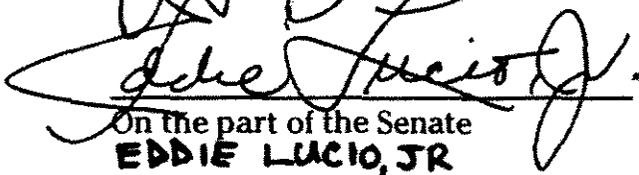
  
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CESAR BLANCO

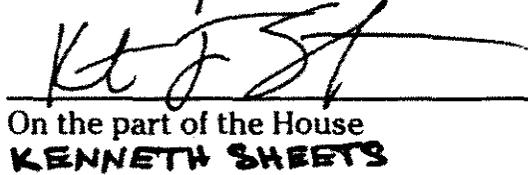
  
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JOAN HUFFMAN

  
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GARNET COLEMAN

  
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JUAN HINOJOSA

  
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RICK MILLER

  
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On the part of the Senate  
EDDIE LUCIO, JR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
On the part of the House  
KENNETH SHEETS

### Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> Printing

S.B. No. 55

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of a grant program to support community  
3 mental health programs for veterans and their families.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 531.0992 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 531.0992. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR  
8 VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES. (a) To the extent funds are  
9 appropriated to the commission for that purpose, the commission  
10 shall establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting  
11 community mental health programs providing services and treatment  
12 to veterans and their families.

13 (b) The commission shall enter into an agreement with a  
14 qualified nonprofit or private entity to serve as the administrator  
15 of the grant program. The duties of the administrator must include  
16 assisting, supporting, and advising the commission in fulfilling  
17 the commission's responsibilities with respect to the grant  
18 program. The administrator may advise the commission on:

19 (1) designing, developing, implementing, and managing  
20 the program;

21 (2) determining criteria for local community  
22 collaboration and the types of services and deliveries eligible for  
23 grants;

24 (3) eligibility requirements for grant recipients;

1           (4) designing and managing the competitive bidding  
2 processes for applications or proposals and the evaluation and  
3 selection of grant recipients;

4           (5) contractual requirements for grant recipients;

5           (6) grant requisites and mechanisms;

6           (7) roles and responsibilities of grant recipients;

7           (8) reporting requirements for grant recipients;

8           (9) support and technical capabilities;

9           (10) requisite timelines and deadlines for the  
10 program;

11           (11) evaluation of the program and grant recipients;

12 and

13           (12) requirements for reporting on the program to  
14 policy makers.

15           (c) The private entity that supports and administers the  
16 grant program shall obtain or secure contributions to the grant  
17 program in an amount of money or other consideration at least equal  
18 in value to the amount of money awarded to grant recipients by the  
19 commission under the grant program. The money or other  
20 consideration obtained or secured by the private entity may, as  
21 determined by the executive commissioner, include cash or in-kind  
22 contributions from private contributors or local governments but  
23 may not include state or federal funds.

24           (d) Money appropriated to, or obtained by, the commission  
25 for the grant program must be disbursed directly to grant  
26 recipients by the commission, as authorized by the executive  
27 commissioner. Money or other consideration obtained or secured by

1 the private entity must be disbursed or provided directly to grant  
2 recipients by the private entity, private contributors, or local  
3 governments, as authorized by the executive commissioner.

4 (e) All grants awarded under the grant program must be used  
5 for the sole purpose of supporting community programs that provide  
6 mental health care services and treatment to veterans and their  
7 families and that coordinate mental health care services for  
8 veterans and their families with other transition support services.

9 (f) The commission shall select grant recipients based on  
10 the submission of applications or proposals by nonprofit and  
11 governmental entities. The executive commissioner shall develop  
12 criteria for the evaluation of those applications or proposals and  
13 the selection of grant recipients. The selection criteria must:

14 (1) evaluate and score:

15 (A) fiscal controls for the project;

16 (B) project effectiveness;

17 (C) project cost; and

18 (D) an applicant's previous experience with  
19 grants and contracts;

20 (2) address the possibility of and method for making  
21 multiple awards; and

22 (3) include other factors that the executive  
23 commissioner considers relevant.

24 (g) The executive commissioner shall use a noncompetitive  
25 procurement procedure to select a qualified nonprofit or private  
26 entity to administer a pilot program of the grant program  
27 established under this section. In selecting the qualified

1 nonprofit or private entity, the executive commissioner must  
2 consider the purposes of the program and the duties of the program  
3 administrator described in this section.

4 (h) The executive commissioner shall adopt any rules  
5 necessary to implement the grant program under this section.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Senate Bill 55  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0992 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0992. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR VETERANS.

(a) To the extent funds are appropriated to the commission for that purpose, the commission shall establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting community mental health programs providing services and treatment to veterans with mental illness.

(b) The commission shall contract with a private entity to support and administer the grant program. The contract between the commission and the private entity must require that:

(1) the commission and the private entity each provide one-half of the money that will be awarded under the grant program;

(2) the private entity develop eligibility criteria for grant applicants, acceptable uses of grant money by grant recipients, and reporting requirements for grant recipients; and

(3) the private entity obtain the commission's approval of the eligibility criteria, acceptable uses, and reporting requirements developed under Subdivision (2) before awarding any grants under the program.

HOUSE VERSION (IE)

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0992 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0992. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

(a) To the extent funds are appropriated to the commission for that purpose, the commission shall establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting community mental health programs providing services and treatment to veterans and their families. [FA2(1)-(2)]

(b) The commission shall enter into an agreement with a qualified nonprofit or private entity to serve as the administrator of the grant program. The duties of the administrator must include assisting, supporting, and advising the commission in fulfilling the commission's responsibilities with respect to the grant program. The administrator may advise the commission on:

(1) designing, developing, implementing, and managing the program;

(2) determining criteria for local community collaboration and the types of services and deliveries eligible for grants;

(3) eligibility requirements for grant recipients;

(4) designing and managing the competitive bidding processes for applications or proposals and the evaluation and selection of grant recipients;

(5) contractual requirements for grant recipients;

(6) grant requisites and mechanisms;

(7) roles and responsibilities of grant recipients;

(8) reporting requirements for grant recipients;

(9) support and technical capabilities;

(10) requisite timelines and deadlines for the program;

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Same as House version, except as follows:

(a) Same as House version.

(b) Substantially the same as House version.

Senate Bill 55  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

HOUSE VERSION (IE)

CONFERENCE

(11) evaluation of the program and grant recipients; and  
(12) requirements for reporting on the program to  
policymakers. [FA3]

*No equivalent provision.*

( ) The private entity that supports and administers the grant program shall obtain or secure contributions to the grant program in an amount of money or other consideration at least equal in value to the amount of money awarded to grant recipients by the commission under the grant program. The money or other consideration obtained or secured by the private entity may, as determined by the executive commissioner, include cash or in-kind contributions from private contributors or local governments but may not include state or federal funds.

(c) Same as House version.

*No equivalent provision.*

( ) Money appropriated to, or obtained by, the commission for the grant program must be disbursed directly to grant recipients by the commission, as authorized by the executive commissioner. Money or other consideration obtained or secured by the private entity must be disbursed or provided directly to grant recipients by the private entity, private contributors, or local governments, as authorized by the executive commissioner.

(d) Same as House version.

*No equivalent provision.*

( ) All grants awarded under the grant program must be used for the sole purpose of supporting community programs that provide mental health care services and treatment to veterans and their families and that coordinate mental health care services for veterans and their families with other transition support services. [FA1]

(e) Same as House version.

*No equivalent provision.*

( ) The executive commissioner by rule shall develop:

Same as Senate version.

**Senate Bill 55**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

HOUSE VERSION (1E)

CONFERENCE

- (1) eligibility criteria for nonprofit and governmental entities to receive grants under the grant program;
- (2) acceptable uses for grants, which must include treatment and service coordination supports that address the mental health needs of veterans and their families; and
- (3) reporting requirements for grant recipients.

*No equivalent provision.*

- ( ) The commission shall select grant recipients based on the submission of applications or proposals by nonprofit and governmental entities. The executive commissioner shall develop criteria for the evaluation of those applications or proposals and the selection of grant recipients. The selection criteria must:
- (1) evaluate and score:
    - (A) fiscal controls for the project;
    - (B) project effectiveness;
    - (C) project cost; and
    - (D) an applicant's previous experience with grants and contracts;
  - (2) address the possibility of and method for making multiple awards; and
  - (3) include other factors that the executive commissioner considers relevant.

(f) Same as House version.

*No equivalent provision.*

- ( ) The executive commissioner *by rule* shall *establish the qualifications and selection process for the private entity that supports and administers the grant program. The selection process must be open and competitive.* [FA2(3)]

(g) The executive commissioner shall *(use a noncompetitive procurement procedure)* to select a qualified nonprofit or private entity to administer a pilot program of the grant program established under this section. *In selecting the qualified nonprofit or private entity, the executive commissioner must consider the purposes of the program and the duties of the program administrator described in this section.*

**Senate Bill 55**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

(c) The executive commissioner shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the grant program under this section.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

HOUSE VERSION (IE)

(c) Same as Senate version.

SECTION 2. *This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015. [FA2(4)]*

CONFERENCE

(h) Same as Senate version.

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 29, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** SB55 by Nelson (Relating to the creation of a grant program to support community mental health programs for veterans and their families. ), **Conference Committee Report**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for SB55, Conference Committee Report: a negative impact of (\$20,000,000) through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2016	(\$10,000,000)
2017	(\$10,000,000)
2018	(\$10,000,000)
2019	(\$10,000,000)
2020	(\$10,000,000)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund</b>
2016	(\$10,000,000)
2017	(\$10,000,000)
2018	(\$10,000,000)
2019	(\$10,000,000)
2020	(\$10,000,000)

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would amend the Government Code to require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to create a pilot grant program for the purpose of supporting community mental health programs providing services and treatment to veterans with mental illness.

**Methodology**

It is assumed that \$10,000,000 in General Revenue per fiscal year will be used for grants for veterans mental health services. Both the House and Senate introduced General Appropriations Bills include a rider that allocates \$10,000,000 in General Revenue per fiscal year for this purpose.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

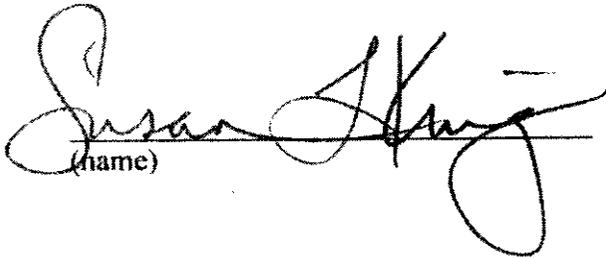
**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, SS, FR, WP, VJC, KVe

**Certification of Compliance with  
Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure**

Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, requires a copy of a conference committee report signed by a majority of each committee of the conference to be furnished to each member of the committee in person or, if unable to deliver in person, by placing a copy in the member's newspaper mailbox at least one hour before the report is furnished to each member of the house under Rule 13, Section 10(a). The paper copies of the report submitted to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), must contain a certificate that the requirement of Rule 13, Section 6(b), has been satisfied, and that certificate must be attached to the copy of the report furnished to each member under Rule 13, Section 10(d). Failure to comply with this requirement is not a sustainable point of order under Rule 13.

I certify that a copy of the conference committee report on SB55 was furnished to each member of the conference committee in compliance with Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, before submission of the paper copies of the report to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), House Rules of Procedure.

  
(name)

5/28/2015  
(date)