

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 261  
By: Moncrief  
Health Services  
2/12/1999  
As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas law provides that the North Texas State Hospital, formerly known as the Vernon-Wichita Falls State Hospital, is included under the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (TDMHMR). This bill would reorganize the composition of the TDMHMR and other mental health facilities.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 261 reorganizes the composition of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and other mental health facilities.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 532.001(b), Health and Safety Code, to provide that community services operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (TDMHMR) include the North Texas State Hospital, rather than Vernon Wichita Falls State Hospital. Deletes from the list of facilities operated by TDMHMR the Harris County Psychiatric Center, Dallas Mental Health Connections, El Paso Psychiatric Hospital and Lubbock Psychiatric Hospital. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 571.003(21), Health and Safety Code, to redefine "state mental hospital."

SECTION 3. Amends Section 574.041(a), Health and Safety Code, to require a court to commit a patient to private mental hospitals under contract with the single portal authority.

SECTION 4. Repealer: Chapter 596, Health and Safety Code (Public Responsibility Committees).

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.