

CHAPTER 272

AN ACT

HB 3090

Relating to hospital discharge procedures; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 441.015 to 441.063.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Behavioral health crisis" means a disruption in an individual's mental or emotional stability or functioning resulting in an urgent need for immediate treatment to prevent a serious deterioration in the individual's mental or physical health.

(b) "Lethal means counseling" means counseling strategies designed to reduce the access by a patient who is at risk for suicide to lethal means, including but not limited to firearms.

(c) "Suicide prevention measures" may include, but are not limited to:

(A) Lethal means counseling; and

(B) Providing information about a suicide intervention hotline.

(2) A hospital with an emergency department shall adopt and implement policies for the release from the hospital's emergency department of a patient presenting with a behavioral health

crisis including suicide prevention measures, if any, that must be taken. At a minimum, the policies must meet the requirements in ORS 441.196 for hospital policies regarding the discharge of a patient who is admitted for mental health treatment.

SECTION 3. (1) Hospitals shall provide to the Oregon Health Authority information, in the form and manner prescribed by the authority, about the adoption and implementation of policies in accordance with section 2 of this 2017 Act.

(2) The authority shall compile the information submitted by hospitals and, no later than January 1, 2018, report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health on the policies, progress on and barriers to implementing the policies and recommendations for legislative changes necessary to improve the behavioral health outcomes for individuals who are released from an emergency department following treatment for a behavioral health crisis.

SECTION 4. This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

Approved by the Governor June 8, 2017

Filed in the office of Secretary of State June 8, 2017

Effective date October 6, 2017