

1 HOUSE BILL 243

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Patricio Ruiloba and Dayan Hochman-Vigil and G. Andrés Romero
5 and Patricia Roybal Caballero and Melanie Ann Stansbury
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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT; CREATING A MENTAL HEALTH
12 AUTHORITY IN BERNALILLO COUNTY; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES;
13 PROVIDING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.
14

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY--
17 CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--POWERS AND DUTIES--REPORTING
18 REQUIREMENTS.--

19 A. The "Albuquerque-Bernalillo county mental health
20 authority" is created. The membership of the board of
21 directors of the authority consists of nine members or
22 designees, as follows:

23 (1) one representative from the office of the
24 mayor of the city of Albuquerque;

25 (2) one city councilor from the Albuquerque

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1 city council;

2 (3) one county commissioner from the
3 Bernalillo county board of county commissioners;

4 (4) one representative from the Bernalillo
5 county manager's office;

6 (5) one representative from the university of
7 New Mexico health sciences center;

8 (6) one representative from the interagency
9 behavioral health purchasing collaborative;

10 (7) one representative from law enforcement to
11 be appointed by the city of Albuquerque;

12 (8) one representative from fire and rescue to
13 be appointed by the Bernalillo county manager; and

14 (9) one representative from the second
15 judicial district court.

16 B. A city councilor member may designate another
17 city councilor to serve in the member's absence. City
18 councilors shall serve one-year terms at the Albuquerque city
19 council president's discretion. County commissioners shall
20 serve one-year terms at the Bernalillo county commission
21 chair's discretion. The authority is subject to the
22 Procurement Code and other applicable state laws.

23 C. The authority is a public body politic and
24 corporate, separate and apart from the city of Albuquerque and
25 Bernalillo county. The authority is a political subdivision of

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1 the state.

2 D. The authority:

3 (1) shall coordinate, oversee and develop
4 policies related to the delivery of mental and behavioral
5 health services, including at facilities that utilize public
6 funds, in Albuquerque and Bernalillo county;

7 (2) shall review the mental and behavioral
8 health system in Albuquerque and Bernalillo county;

9 (3) shall identify issues with the current
10 mental and behavioral health system in Albuquerque and
11 Bernalillo county and identify potential solutions to those
12 issues;

13 (4) shall develop data-driven policies and
14 evidence-based best practices designed to improve mental and
15 behavioral health services;

16 (5) is granted all powers necessary and
17 appropriate to carry out and effectuate its public and
18 corporate purposes, including the authority to adopt procedural
19 rules; and

20 (6) is authorized to use city or county
21 procurement processes or to contract with the city or county to
22 further its public and corporate purposes.

23 E. The authority may adopt resolutions and rules
24 necessary to exert the power conferred by this section.

25 F. The authority shall report no later than

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1 November 1 of each year to the interagency behavioral health
2 purchasing collaborative on the authority's findings regarding
3 the mental and behavioral health systems in the city of
4 Albuquerque and Bernalillo county.

5 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Five hundred thousand dollars
6 (\$500,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the local
7 government division of the department of finance and
8 administration for expenditure in fiscal year 2021 and
9 subsequent fiscal years for Bernalillo county to form and fund
10 the Albuquerque-Bernalillo county mental health authority. Any
11 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a
12 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.