

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB139

House of Origin	<u> X </u>	Introduced	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u> </u>	In Committee	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Edwards

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: **Community services board; requires employee that prepared report to attend hearing.**

5. Summary: Community services board; attend all hearings. Requires that an employee of the community services board that prepared the preadmission screening report attend the involuntary commitment hearing. The bill provides that where in person attendance is not practicable, attendance may be by electronic means. Further it provides that where the hearing is held in the jurisdiction of another community services board, an employee of the community services board serving that jurisdiction may attend on behalf of the community services board that prepared the preadmission screening report.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Tentative

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

8. Fiscal Implications: The provisions in this bill may increase CSB costs in regions where boards do not currently attending hearings. According to data from the Supreme Court, there are approximately 20,000 commitment hearings on an annual basis. The Office of the Inspector General determined that 50 percent of CSBs do not attend hearings on a regular basis. Urban CSBs are more likely to attend hearings than rural CSBs, and are less likely to be significantly impacted by this provision. Staffing has been noted as a significant barrier. To meet recommended standards for caseload system-wide, the Office of the Inspector General estimated an additional 230 case managers would be needed at a cost of \$11.5 million. This increase, however, would address service provision issues beyond those required by this legislation. The Governor's budget provides \$8.8 million in funding for 106 new case managers by the end of the biennium.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Community Services Boards

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: A similar provision is found in HB499/SB246, the comprehensive mental health reform legislation.

Date: 1/22/2008 dpb

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources