

## Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB217

House of Origin      X      Introduced                  Substitute                  Engrossed  
Second House                 In Committee              Substitute                  Enrolled

**2. Patron:**        Edwards

**3. Committee:**   Courts of Justice

**4. Title:**         **Involuntary commitment; independent examination.**

**5. Summary:** Provides that a health care entities shall disclose records to independent examiners conducting examinations of a person who is the subject of an involuntary commitment order. This bill also clarifies that a person who is subject to a temporary detention order shall be given a thorough psychological evaluation, including a substance abuse screening and that the independent evaluator shall review the person's medical records including records of any previous psychological evaluations, prior to conducting the evaluation.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Tentative

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill provides technical clarifications regarding the evaluation procedure. This could increase the amount of time that examiners need to carry out evaluations, however currently they are reimbursed at a rate of \$75 by the Court. If the examination process becomes burdensome, examiners may insist on an increase in the reimbursement rate.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Community Services Boards, Courts

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** This bill contains similar provisions to HB499/SB246, the comprehensive mental health reform bill

**Date:** 1/24/2008    dpb

**Document:** G:\FY2008\FIS\Vtech\SB217.Doc

cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources