

# HCR6004 - Mental Health Services Delivery Task Force

To create a task force for the purpose of reviewing the manner in which mental health services are delivered in this state and considering changes to existing models or alternative models that could be utilized for the delivery of mental health services on a regional basis in this state.

[HCR6004 link.](#)

(The resolution is silent regarding the number of members.)

Appointee/Member	Chair/ VC
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2020 South Dakota Legislature  
**House Concurrent Resolution**  
**6004**  
**ENROLLED**

AN ACT

**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, To create a task force for the purpose of reviewing the manner in which mental health services are delivered in this state and considering changes to existing models or alternative models that could be utilized for the delivery of mental health services on a regional basis in this state.**

WHEREAS, mental health issues in this state have risen to the level of a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, legislative studies during the 2018 and 2019 interims focused on the challenges of effectively and efficiently delivering mental health services in a vast and sparsely populated area; and

WHEREAS, multiple task forces examining the challenges independently concluded that regionally focused solutions would be in the best interest of this state and its residents; and

WHEREAS, structuring a regional approach to mental health services would require current providers to reevaluate the manner in which outpatient and inpatient services are being made available, to jointly undertake efforts designed to coordinate the delivery and administration of services, and to creatively consider alternative delivery models in order to increase access to multiple levels of service for those in need, closer to their homes; and

WHEREAS, multiple task forces examining the challenges independently concluded that regionally focused solutions would also result in the Human Services Center being readily available for those patients having acute needs that cannot be appropriately addressed in other community settings; and

WHEREAS, the creation and ultimate implementation of a regionalized service delivery model will require a strategic approach involving legislators, Department of Social Services personnel, and mental health providers, for the purpose of developing a joint

vision and creating a viable business plan that addresses requisite facility restructuring, administrative reorganization options, staffing requirements and availability, case management models, and public and private financial resources, and ultimately results in the development and implementation of a mental health continuum having, as its foundation, integrated services, community-based care, and outcome-driven treatment options that are determined collaboratively, with multiple stakeholder involvement; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated and systemic approach to the development of a regionalized mental health delivery system will also provide additional analytical opportunities regarding crisis care stabilization units, the use of telehealth crisis services in remote counties by law enforcement agencies, the efficacy of recovery houses and supported employment, the provision of case management services in all specialty courts, the continuum of services available for children with mental health needs, the integration of mental health in the primary care delivery system, and the potential impacts of community education efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fifth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council establish a task force on the regionalization of mental health services in order to further the objectives described in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Department of Social Services personnel work in cooperation with the mental health provider community to fully examine the options articulated in this resolution and recommend statutory and regulatory changes necessary to implement a comprehensive mental health delivery plan for this state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to provide sufficient time for the development of any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, the task force prepare and present a final report regarding the work directed by this resolution to the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council on or before December 1, 2020.

Adopted by the House of Representatives, February 26, 2020  
Concurred in by the Senate, March 4, 2020