

NO. 65. AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT.

(H.537)

Sec. 122a. PUBLIC INEBRIATE PROGRAM STUDY

(a) There are questions about the continuing relevance and applicability of the existing inebriate statutes, as well as concerns about the funding, program policies, and availability of services to individuals classified as “public inebriates.” This complex public health issue transcends medical, criminal, and public policy arenas and has significant economic impact across several state agencies. As a result of the complexity of this public health problem, the department of health is directed to convene a study committee to evaluate the current practice and policy in this area and make recommendations for improvements.

(b) The study committee shall include representatives from:

- (1) the office of the defender general;
- (2) public safety and local law enforcement;
- (3) hospitals;
- (4) public treatment programs;
- (5) emergency services workers, including emergency medical technicians;
- (6) transportation services;
- (7) department of corrections personnel;
- (8) peer recovery staff.

(c) Recommendations included in the study shall include but not be limited to changes in statutes, program protocols, and resources used to address this important issue. The department shall report on the results of this review to the house and senate committees on appropriations, the house committee on human services, and the senate committee on health and welfare no later than January 15, 2008.