

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

March 10, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on Judiciary to which
was referred HB 578-FN,

AN ACT relative to standards for mental health courts.

Having considered the same, report the same with the
following resolution: **RESOLVED**, that it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Edward Gordon

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 578-FN
Title:	relative to standards for mental health courts.
Date:	March 10, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill directs the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to produce a report establishing standards for mental health courts in New Hampshire. While the bill is well intended, the majority of the Judiciary Committee believes it is unnecessary and flawed in its approach to the issue. First, the court system can establish standards for its mental health courts at any time without instruction from the legislature. Second, the bill makes no provision for funding the report or for providing resources to operate the mental health courts. Finally, the legislature should not be telling the head of another branch of government how to administer his or her branch of government. It would be like the courts telling the Speaker of the House how to administer legislative committees.

Vote 11-10.

Rep. Edward Gordon
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Judiciary

HB 578-FN, relative to standards for mental health courts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill directs the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to produce a report establishing standards for mental health courts in New Hampshire. While the bill is well intended, the majority of the Judiciary Committee believes it is unnecessary and flawed in its approach to the issue. First, the court system can establish standards for its mental health courts at any time without instruction from the legislature. Second, the bill makes no provision for funding the report or for providing resources to operate the mental health courts. Finally, the legislature should not be telling the head of another branch of government how to administer his or her branch of government. It would be like the courts telling the Speaker of the House how to administer legislative committees. **Vote 11-10.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

March 10, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on Judiciary to which
was referred HB 578-FN,**

AN ACT relative to standards for mental health courts.

**Having considered the same, and being unable to agree
with the Majority, report with the recommendation that
the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Paul Berch

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 578-FN
Title:	relative to standards for mental health courts.
Date:	March 10, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill would require the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to create standards necessary to implement a statewide mental health court system. This bill is based upon the recommendations of the Commission to Study Expansion of NH's Mental Health Courts, established by SB 51. Unlike drug courts, there are no national "best practices" standards for mental health courts. Our current mental health courts are supervised by the judicial branch and to have them devise standards for New Hampshire appeared to the Commission and to the minority of the Judiciary Committee to be most appropriate. They have the experience and the knowledge. The minority notes that the judicial branch has fully participated in both the Commission and before the Judiciary Committee in support of this bill and has voiced no objection to being directed by the legislature to develop these standards. This bill is a product of welcome cooperation between these two branches of government in support of a widely accepted wish to improve and expand our mental health courts. The minority of Judiciary Committee recommends that such cooperation be rewarded and that the Inexpedient to Legislate recommendation be defeated, so that an Ought to Pass motion may be considered.

Rep. Paul Berch
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Judiciary

HB 578-FN, relative to standards for mental health courts. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Paul Berch for the **Minority** of Judiciary. This bill would require the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to create standards necessary to implement a statewide mental health court system. This bill is based upon the recommendations of the Commission to Study Expansion of NH's Mental Health Courts, established by SB 51. Unlike drug courts, there are no national "best practices" standards for mental health courts. Our current mental health courts are supervised by the judicial branch and to have them devise standards for New Hampshire appeared to the Commission and to the minority of the Judiciary Committee to be most appropriate. They have the experience and the knowledge. The minority notes that the judicial branch has fully participated in both the Commission and before the Judiciary Committee in support of this bill and has voiced no objection to being directed by the legislature to develop these standards. This bill is a product of welcome cooperation between these two branches of government in support of a widely accepted wish to improve and expand our mental health courts. The minority of Judiciary Committee recommends that such cooperation be rewarded and that the Inexpedient to Legislate recommendation be defeated, so that an Ought to Pass motion may be considered.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Voting Sheets



2021 SESSION

Judiciary

 Bill #: HBS 78 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 3-10-2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Gordon, Edward M. Chairman	11		
McLean, Mark Vice Chairman	1		
Sylvia, Michael J.	2		
Wuelper, Kurt F. Clerk	3		
Alexander, Joe H.	4		
Rice, Kimberly A.	5		
Silber, Norman J. <u>Lacelles, R</u>	6		
Greene, Bob J.	7		
Kelley, Diane E.	8		
Tausch, Lindsay	9		
Trottier, Douglas R.	10		
Smith, Marjorie K.		1	
Berch, Paul S.		2	
Horrigan, Timothy O.		3	
DiLorenzo, Charlotte I.		4	
Chase, Wendy		5	
Kenney, Cam E.		6	
Langley, Diane M.		7	
McBeath, Rebecca Susan		8	
Paige, Mark		9	
Simpson, Alexis		10	



2021 SESSION

Judiciary

Bill #: HB578 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 3-10-21

TOTAL VOTE:

	11		10	
--	----	--	----	--

Public Hearing

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 578-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to standards for mental health courts.

DATE: 2/23/2021

LOB ROOM: 208/Remote **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:30 PM
Time Adjourned: 3:00 PM

Committee Members: Reps. Gordon, McLean, Wuelper, Sylvia, Alexander Jr., ~~Rice~~, Silber, Greene, D. Kelley, Tausch, Trottier, M. Smith, Berch, Horrigan, DiLorenzo, Chase, Kenney, Langley, McBeath, Paige and Simpson

Bill Sponsors: Rep Cannon
Blue Sheet 154 Support Oppose 0

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

***Rep. Cannon Self supports** My written testimony essentially summarizes the reports of the commission which has been working for the past couple of years. We operate drug courts per national guidelines across our state. We have not yet implemented Mental health courts. It is time we do that be based on best practices from the mental health courts. The Judicial branch needs to develop said plan and keep Mental Health court has changed my life, including forms of trauma. As a teen I used drugs to self-medicate. I became a teen mother at 16 and always felt there was something wrong with me. In January 2014, I was arrested after a physical confrontation with my husband and charged with four felonies. Mental health court was an alternative to those charges. In January of this year, I celebrated seven years of sobriety, have regained custody of my children, and I totally believe in Mental health court and urge you to support HB 578.

Jake Berry New Futures Supports Strongly in support of this bill. Reads testimony of Senator Morgan: mental Health courts have shown great success when properly implemented and have served over 400 people so far in our state.

***Susan Stearns** Deputy Dir. NAMI NH Supports I served on the mental health commission in 2019. Study in 2011 on institutionalization of mental health patients showed that while mental health hospitalization has dramatically decreased, incarceration had dramatically increased. Drug courts can save money and, more importantly, improve people's lives. But, we have far too few mental health courts. Too often people with mental health problems are arrested and find treatment unavailable. Yesterday 56 adults were waiting for mental health services, 5 in correctional facilities. It is heartbreaking to tell a family they live where no drug court is available. There is data showing savings of over \$250,000 in 2018 alone. Statewide standards are a critical first step in creating good mental health courts. I urge you to support HN578.

***Shelly Golden** Grafton Mental health Court Coordinator My written testimony contains statistics from our court. In 2019 we demonstrated savings of \$217,000 and a low recidivism rate of 14% and a saving of \$62,000 in medications at the County jails. We stand ready to assist in creating standards and new drug courts. Q Langley: Is vocational training part of mental Health court? A We connect people with rehab programs and other services to get them to a far better place.

Chief Paul Smith Serves on both Mental Health and Drug Court teams I am proponent of both Mental Health and Drug courts. Law enforcement buy in is an issue in any of these programs. Our courts have served our people very well. There is no structure to mental health court, and I think that's one of its biggest flaws. That lack of structure is preventing people from accessing mental health court. It serves people whose primary problem is mental health as opposed to the Superior court Drug Court program which target's drug issues. Each mental health court in the state has different entry criteria.

***Robert Oxley** Dept of Corrections Dir Field Services If mental health courts are structured like drug courts it would affect the Dept of Corrections field services. They need funding to pay for that. We need to validate and organize the mental health court system.

***Jill O'Neill** Self Supports I highly recommend an advisory board for each mental health court. Review by national people should be the last step in the process vice the first. We need reliable data for good analytics. Having a state-wide coordinator for all health courts is essential. We need a strategic plan. Absent this leadership the standards risk being diluted. Q Gordon: Are you suggesting we include a mandatory coordinator in this bill or just that the Court include one in their program. Q Has there been any effort to get the Supreme Court involved? In addition to the standards, we need someone to drive the process. Q Langley: Why the systems haven't collaborated to develop these standards before? A There has been a lot of cooperation, but that is within each district. That is why we need a statewide coordinator. Q Langley: So, you are talking about leadership? A Yes.

Judge Tina Nadeau Supports It is important to have standards. When Legislature fully funded drug courts we got funding to create the standards we needed. There are no national standards, but several states have mental health court standards. Here is room for both drug and Mental health Courts to achieve the best outcomes. Q Gordon: Can the Legislature direct the Supreme Court to do something? A We always want to operate collaboratively. Probably the legislature can't direct the Supreme court.

Alex Caseale Drug offender program coordinator We are working to develop better standards for Drug Courts and mental health courts will be part of those. Standards allow the courts to look very different depending on their focus. Standards allow us to better evaluate the performance of individual courts. Q Smith: Why do the courts need us to tell them what to do? A I think the court system was ready to come up with standards. We did that for Drug Court and are ready to do it for mental health courts.

Judge Nadeau: The legislature just funded drug courts in 2016. Mental health courts are operating well with local involvement. The commission recommended what we have here. Q Smith: So just what is the problem? A I don't think there is a problem. Q Gordon: Will requiring standards allow you to get the resources you need to get mental health courts working well? A We need the standards to figure out what we need for resources, Yes.

Shannon Bader Supports Mental Health Practitioner This bill will help us develop standards appropriate for our state. Ones that will fit with our existing structures. There is a lot of cooperation, but it is by jurisdiction, usually counties. We need statewide standards.



Rep Kurt Wuelper

House Remote Testify

Judiciary Committee Testify List for Bill HB578 on 2021-02-23

Support: 169 Oppose: 0 Neutral: 1 Total to Testify: 13

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Cannon, Gerri	Somersworth, NH gerri.cannon@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes (6m)	No	2/22/2021 1:10 PM
Sullivan, Ebony	sullivae@mhcgm.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (5m)	No	2/10/2021 4:28 PM
Canterberry, Rachel	Rachelmariecanterberry@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (5m)	No	2/16/2021 11:36 PM
Golden, Shelly	Thornton, NH sgolden@co.grafton.nh.us	A Member of the Public	Grafton County Mental Health Court	Support	Yes (5m)	No	2/18/2021 1:47 PM
Berry, Jake	jberry@new-futures.org	A Lobbyist	New Futures	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/17/2021 10:12 AM
Bader, Shannon	shannonmariebader@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/15/2021 10:03 AM
Stearns, Susan	Sanbornton, NH sstearns@naminh.org	A Member of the Public	NAMI New Hampshire	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/19/2021 4:58 PM
Oxley, Robert	Concord, NH Robert.A.Oxley@doc.nh.gov	State Agency Staff	Department of Corrections	Neutral	Yes (3m)	No	2/22/2021 11:15 AM
Ho, Patrick	patrick.a.ho@hitchcock.org	A Member of the Public	New Hampshire Psychiatric Society	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/17/2021 10:30 AM
Tonkin, Dawn	Northwood, NH dmtonkin@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/22/2021 2:48 PM
Stamper, Donna	Grantham, NH dstamp4@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (2m)	No	2/22/2021 2:13 PM
O'Neill, Jill	o'neilj@gnmhc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (10m)	No	2/17/2021 10:16 AM
Dowling, Patrick	Lincoln, NH Patrickdowlingsart@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	No	2/21/2021 5:41 PM
DeMark, Richard	Meredith, NH demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 2:41 PM
Pospychala, Erin	WILMOT, NH erinmvp@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 7:02 PM

Fenner-Lukaitis, Elizabeth	warner, NH glukaitis@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 7:08 PM
Babladelis, Ashley	Concord, NH ash.hatch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 8:31 PM
Torpey, Jeanne	Concord, NH jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 8:46 PM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 9:06 PM
Damon, Claudia	Concord, NH cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 9:07 PM
McNamee, Brigid	Concord, NH brigidmcnamee@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 9:14 PM
Destefano, Kim	Pembroke, NH Kimberly.destefano17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 9:35 PM
Wells, Ken	Andover, NH kenwells3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:14 PM
Wells, Lee	Andover, NH leewells.locustfarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:20 PM
Almy, Susan	Lebanon, NH susan.almy@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:20 PM
Stevens, Representative Deb	Nashua, NH debstevens4ward7@gmail.com	An Elected Official	My 10K constituents	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:22 PM
Larson, Ruth	Alton, NH ruthlarson@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:26 PM
Bartlett, REp Christy	Concord, NH christydbartlett@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Merrimack 19	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:33 PM
Warnock, Laurie	Hampstead, NH Lwarnock62@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:35 PM
Taylor, Gale	Concord, NH galeforcefacilitators@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:39 PM
Casino, Joanne	Concord, NH joannecasino@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:51 PM
Wolter, Julie	Dover, NH BHAC@nhpsychology.org	A Member of the Public	New Hampshire Psychological Association	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:06 AM
Rich, Cecilia	Somersworth, NH cecilia.rich@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 12:04 AM

Cutshall, Catherine	Bedford, NH vivadofamily@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 5:43 AM
Vivado, Mauricio	Bedford, NH maumojo@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 5:44 AM
Carole, Kimberly	Bedford, NH Mskimberlycarole@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:19 AM
Donovan, Julie	BEDFORD, NH julie.donovan@juno.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:59 AM
Podlipny, Ann	Chester, NH apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 6:40 AM
Bailey, Cheryl	Franconia, NH cheryl_Bailey11@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 6:41 AM
Zaenglein, Barbara	Amherst, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:24 AM
Zaenglein, Eric	Amherst, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:24 AM
Blanchard, Sandra	Loudon, NH sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:32 AM
hatch, sally	Concord, NH sallyhatch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:43 AM
Hayes, Randy	Canterbury, NH rcompostr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:49 AM
Rettew, Annie	CONCORD, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:50 AM
Smith, Sara	Pembroke, NH sara.rose.ssmith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 7:55 AM
Jachim, Nancy	Newport, NH nancyjachim@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:00 AM
Townsend, Carol	Weare, NH catownsend85@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:46 AM
Hamer, Heidi	Manchester, NH heidi.hamer@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:08 AM
Petruccelli, Maxine	Webster, NH maxinepet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:11 AM
Petruccelli, Charles	Webster, NH chasmxpet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:12 AM

Spielman, Kathy	Durham, NH jspielman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:19 AM
Spielman, James	Durham, NH jspielman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:20 AM
Cook, Richard	Warner, NH r_cook@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:23 AM
Mangipudi, Latha	Nashua, NH Latha.mangipudi@leg.state.N.H.us	An Elected Official	Hills 35	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:42 AM
Davidson, Suellen	Hollis, NH SuellenDavidson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:51 AM
Carter, Lilian	Deering, NH lcarter0914@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:53 AM
Wyatt, Timothy	HUDSON, NH timwyatt1@juno.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:58 AM
Mower, Robin	Durham, NH melodyofharpists@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 10:02 AM
woodcock, stephen	center conway, NH slwoodcock116@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 10:06 AM
St.Martin, Tom	Candia, NH scooternh@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 10:29 AM
Straiton, Marie	Pembroke, NH m.straiton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 10:54 AM
Matthews, Marjorie	marjoriemattthews@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2021 1:33 PM
Brazeau, Pierre	Jazz4brazo@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2021 6:08 PM
Davidson, Marsha	Plainfield, NH marshaldavidson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2021 3:08 PM
Fordey, Nicole	Litchfield, NH nikkif610@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2021 12:45 PM
Cotton, Bev	Weare, NH bevcott@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2021 5:20 PM
Bennett, Ward	Amherst, NH wbennett@its.jnj.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2021 12:50 PM
Smith, Jennifer	Pembroke, NH jaycmd7699@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2021 6:50 PM
Nossiff, Virginia	center conway, NH	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2021 11:16 AM

	ginnossiff@gmail.com							
Murdoch, Kimberly	North Conway, NH murdoch.kim@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2021 5:35 PM	
Sinclair, Jill	Rochester, NH rsinky@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2021 11:35 AM	
Burns, Scott	Franklin, NH scottaburns.2020@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2021 8:06 PM	
Jones, Gisela	Lebanon, NH gisela1142@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 12:16 PM	
Bates, David	Warner, NH dbates3@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 10:29 AM	
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 5:13 PM	
Jarry, Jessica	Rochester, NH mystylisway@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 1:15 PM	
Clark, Lynn	Contoocook, NH rubylynn862@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 2:06 PM	
Johnson, Sara	Warner, NH nhchicagocubfan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2021 4:02 PM	
Sawyer, Katherine	Sawyerka@mhcgm.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/11/2021 11:19 AM	
Downey, Angela	amf0543@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/12/2021 3:43 PM	
Manseau, Joline	joline.manseau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/12/2021 10:11 PM	
Benton, Emily	Emily.r.benton3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/12/2021 11:49 PM	
Whitaker, Cynthia	whitakerc@gnmhc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/12/2021 5:47 PM	
LITTLEFIELD, SHANNON	shshshannon@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/13/2021 12:25 PM	
Chase, Wendy	wendy.chase@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/13/2021 1:57 PM	
Zboya, Patrice	pzboya654@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2021 10:50 AM	
Guggisberg, Karen	optimist246@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2021 9:30 AM	
Matthews, James	matthews@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2021 2:28 PM	
DePalo, Renee	rdepalo@co.grafton.nh.us	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2021 7:47 PM	
Cannon, Brenda	cannonbr@mhcgm.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/11/2021 8:17 AM	

Kraunelis, Kristen	kraunelk@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/11/2021 8:48 AM
Heels, Laurie	laurie.b.heels@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/11/2021 10:10 AM
Paris, Jennifer	parisjen@mhcgm.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2021 5:11 PM
Tardif, Emma	e.real87@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2021 2:37 PM
Johns, Meaghan	meg.johns@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2021 4:08 PM
Durso, Mark	Nashua, NH dursom@gnmhc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:00 AM
Campagna, Alexis	Nashua, NH campagnaa@gnmhc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:03 AM
Hayden, Sam	Hopkinton, NH hayden.sam@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:14 AM
Kallinich, Kayla	Boston, MA kaylakall47@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 2:23 PM
Padmore, Michael	michael.padmore@nhms.org	A Lobbyist	NH Medical Society	Support	No	No	2/17/2021 10:46 AM
Kinne, Hanna	hkinne@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2021 11:37 AM
Pugh, Barbara	Amherst, NH barbara.pugh@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:15 AM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:22 AM
Jones, Andrew	Pembroke, NH arj11718@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:30 AM
Keeler, Margaret	New London, NH peg5keeler@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 6:38 PM
Lane, Connie	Concord, NH connie.lane@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Merrimack 12	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 6:39 PM
Warren, Joan	Warner, NH joanbcwarren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:39 PM
Falk, Cheri	Wilton, NH Falk.cj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:39 PM
Hamblet, Joan	Portsmouth, NH joan.hamblet@leg.state.nh.us	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:41 PM
Lindpaintner, Lyn	Concord, NH lynlin@bluewin.ch	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 12:37 PM
Bouchard, Donald	MANCHESTER, NH	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 12:49 PM

	donaldjbouchard@gmail.com							
Neville, Betsey	Concord, NH betsey2003@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:06 PM	
blakeney, gordon	Concord, NH rbplease@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:07 PM	
Gaudet, Fawn	Rumney, NH fawngaudet@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:16 PM	
Tatlis, Catherine	Salem, NH c_tatlis@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:26 PM	
Wiggins, Richard	Sanbornton, NH rwiggins@naminh.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:29 PM	
McEntee, Alex	Concord, NH alexmcntee71@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:42 PM	
Thomas, Sally	Bedford, NH Sallythomas@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:42 PM	
Thomas, Cindy	Merrimack, NH clstthomas@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:43 PM	
King, Walter	Dover, NH genedocwk@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:45 PM	
Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 1:54 PM	
Frostholm, Margaret	Concord, NH pfrostholm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 2:13 PM	
Whitney, Patricia	Sunapee, NH patwhitney00@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 2:58 PM	
Vincent, Laura	Loudon, NH lvlauravincnt5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 3:24 PM	
Hebert, Ann	Somersworth, NH fall.cassidy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 3:25 PM	
Paschell, Susan	Bow, NH spaschell@dupontgroup.com	A Lobbyist	NH Community Behavioral Health Association	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 3:33 PM	
Ellison, Jean	Somersworth, NH jellison294@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 3:50 PM	
Assmus, Jan	Hanover, NH jassmus5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 3:53 PM	
gardiner, arthur	Hanover, NH	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 4:29 PM	

	arthurgardiner@arthurgardiner.com							
Reed, Barbara	N. Swanzey NH, NH moragmcp83@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 5:04 PM	
Mattlage, Linda	Concord, NH l.mattlage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 5:31 PM	
Levesque, Cassandra	Barrington, NH cassandra.levesque@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 5:56 PM	
Spencer, Louise	Concord, NH lpskentstreet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:21 PM	
Spencer, Rob	Concord, NH kentstusa@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:22 PM	
Garland, Sara	Dover, NH emaverick91@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:46 PM	
Greenwood, Nancy	Concord, NH nancgreenwood@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:50 PM	
Aronson, Laura	MANCHESTER, NH laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 8:51 PM	
Briggs, Ron	Concord, NH Rongb1950@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:00 PM	
Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:16 PM	
Varney, Michele	Alton, NH maloof@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:21 PM	
Koch, Helmut	Concord, NH helmut.koch.2001@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:26 PM	
Hinebauch, Mel	Concord, NH melhinebauch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:27 PM	
Jones, Stephanie	Bedford, NH stephaniermjones@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 9:41 PM	
Helrich, Robin	Hopkinton, NH Rrhelrich@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 10:08 PM	
Ingraham, Sheryl	Concord, NH sheryl.ingraham@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2021 11:05 PM	
Bomersbach, James	Concord, NH james.bomersbach@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 12:40 AM	
Gildersleeve, Darlene	Hopkinton, NH	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 1:20 AM	

	dmcote88@gmail.com							
Platt, Elizabeth-Anne	CONCORD, NH lizanneplatt09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 6:45 AM	
Arnold, Neil	Marlborough, NH krisarn@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 12:15 AM	
Istel, Claudia	Acworth, NH claudia@sover.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 7:55 AM	
DiNapoli, Pamela	Concord, NH nhna.ned@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	NH Nurses Association	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 7:59 AM	
Ellermann, Maureen	CONCORD, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 8:00 AM	
Campion, Polly	Etna, NH pkc441@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 7:31 AM	
Cappiello, Mary Ann	Stratham, NH cappiellomaryann@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 7:48 AM	
Dontonville, Roger	Enfield, NH rdontonville@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 8:28 AM	
Clark, Denise	Milford, NH denise.m.clark03055@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 8:33 AM	
McConnell, Liz	BRENTWOOD, NH lizmc99@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 8:58 AM	
SOLOWAY, BETTE	SALISBURY, NH bettesoloway@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	NAMI Support Group Upper Valley	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 9:06 AM	
Perkins, Kristen	Concord, NH perkins_kristen@ymail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 10:12 AM	
Widmer, Joan	Amherst, NH jwidmer56@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself and the New Hampshire State Council of the Emergency Nurses Association	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 10:36 AM	
Vogt, Robin	Portsmouth, NH robin.w.vogt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 9:34 AM	
Rutter, Linda	Derry, NH Triple ickle555lr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 9:48 AM	
Wheelock, Adrianna	Concord, NH adriannawheelock@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 1:34 PM	
Odom, Judy	Bow, NH judyodom@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 2:17 PM	

Dejoie, John	Concord, NH jdejoie@karnerbluestrategies.com	A Lobbyist	National Association of Social Workers - NH Chapter	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 12:10 PM
Ingram, April	Warner, NH aandk@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 12:42 PM
Smith, Paul	Littleton, NH chief@littletonpd.org	A Member of the Public	Grafton County Mental Health Court - Littleton	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 11:34 AM
McBeath, Rebecca	Portsmouth, NH BMcB@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 11:41 AM
Byam, Martha	Exeter, NH martha.byam@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2021 4:36 PM

Testimony

Bill as
Introduced

HB 578-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0737
04/10

HOUSE BILL **578-FN**

AN ACT relative to standards for mental health courts.

SPONSORS: Rep. Cannon, Straf. 18; Rep. Berch, Ches. 1; Rep. Walz, Merr. 23; Rep. Shurtleff, Merr. 11; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the chief justice of the supreme court to submit a report on the standards necessary to implement a statewide mental health court system.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

21-0737
04/10

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to standards for mental health courts.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Purpose. The general court finds that: mental health diversion programs, operating in certain courts around New Hampshire, have increased access to treatment for individuals and families impacted by mental health issues. A statewide system of mental health courts would expand access to treatment services across the state and save taxpayer dollars by preventing incarceration of individuals with mental illness who become justice-involved due to symptoms or behaviors arising from their illness.

2 Mental Health Court Standards; Report.

I. In order to increase access to mental health treatment services and maximize savings to taxpayers, the chief justice of the New Hampshire supreme court shall submit a report establishing standards for a statewide system of mental health courts to reduce criminal justice system costs, reduce recidivism, and better treat the mental health needs of individuals with mental illness. To establish these standards the chief justice shall, either internally or through an independent consultant, review successful programs in other states and localities, and shall identify models for staffing and structure to extend access to mental health courts to all New Hampshire residents.

II. The report shall be submitted to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, the chairpersons of the house and senate policy committees with jurisdiction over judicial branch matters, the chief justice of the New Hampshire superior court, and the administrative judge of the New Hampshire circuit court on or before November 1, 2021.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

LBA
21-0737
12/23/20

**HB 578-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to standards for mental health courts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation, as introduced, has a total fiscal impact of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2021 through 2024.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Judicial Branch