

In light of changes that have been made to HB 588, the updated description of the bill in Jim Jackson's Legislative Report #8 should read as follows:

HB 588 Mental Health Treatment Through “Community Engagement”. Rep. Rick Miera. After significant amendments, this bill authorizes “community engagement teams” (CETs) to work with persons with mental illness who are believed to be "unlikely to be able to live safely in the community" but are not presenting an immediate danger to themselves or others. The CET would encourage involvement in available mental health treatment services and other needed community resources. CET services would be voluntary and could not be forced on anyone. DRNM supports the changes that have been made to the bill so far but remains concerned that responsibility for oversight of these pilot programs is given to the Department of Health rather than HSD, where the Behavioral Health Division is housed and which has oversight of the Behavioral Health Collaborative and the mental health services to be provided through Centennial Care. Passed House 68 – 0; pending in SJC.