

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 741

Introduced by Assembly Member Bennett

February 16, 2021

An act relating to jails.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 741, as introduced, Bennett. Jails: discharge plan.

Existing law authorizes a county sheriff to discharge a person from a county jail at any time on the last day that the person may be confined that the sheriff considers to be in the best interests of that person. Existing law additionally authorizes a sheriff to offer a voluntary program to a person, upon completion of a sentence served or a release ordered by the court to be effected the same day, that would allow the person to stay in jail for up to 16 additional hours or until normal business hours, whichever is shorter, in order to offer the person the ability to be discharged to a treatment center or during daytime hours, as specified. Existing law authorizes the person to revoke consent and be discharged as soon as possible and practicable.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would create effective discharge plans for individuals with mental illness in county jails, and that would ensure that those plans are collaboratively developed in each county by specified individuals, including representatives of the court.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
- 2 legislation that would do both of the following:
- 3 (a) Create effective discharge plans for individuals with mental
- 4 illness in county jails.
- 5 (b) Ensure that those plans are collaboratively developed in
- 6 each county by representatives of the court and law enforcement,
- 7 mental health professionals, and other stakeholders.

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