

SENATE BILL 115: Repurpose R.J. Blackley Ctr as Psych Hospital.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate Introduced by: Sens. Krawiec, Burgin, Corbin First Edition Staff Attorney

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OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 115 would exempt from certificate of need review the conversion of the R.J. Blackley Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center in Granville County to a psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents.

CURRENT LAW: Under Article 9 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes, the conversion of one type of health facility bed into another type of health facility bed is required to go through certificate of need review.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 115 would exempt from certificate of need review the conversion of a state-operated facility into a psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents, the creation of psychiatric beds at that hospital, and the establishment of psychiatric services at that hospital if all of the following are true:

- The state-operated facility is in a county with a population between 60,000 and 65,000.
- The state-operated facility is in a county with an area under 540 square miles.
- The state-operated facility is in a county that borders Virginia.
- There is a written agreement between the state-owned facility and DHHS for DHHS to establish and operate the new psychiatric facility.

The bill would also repeal G.S. 122 C-181(a)(3)d, which establishes the R.J. Blackley Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center.

Finally, the bill would require the Secretary of DHHS to enter into an agreement with a state entity meeting all the above criteria to operate a psychiatric hospital on the campus of the R.J. Blackley Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center. The center would cease being operated by the state on March 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law.

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