

MEMORANDUM

DATE	March 2, 2017
TO	Policy and Advocacy Committee
FROM	 Konnor Leitzell Central Services Student Assistant
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #7 (a)(ii)(X) – SB 8 (Beall) Diversion: mental disorders

Background:

This bill would authorize a court, with the consent of the defendant and a waiver of the defendant's speedy trial right, to postpone prosecution of a misdemeanor or a felony punishable in a county jail, and place the defendant in a pretrial diversion program if the court is satisfied that the defendant suffers from a mental disorder, that the defendant's mental disorder played a significant role in the commission of the charged offense, and that the defendant would benefit from mental health treatment. The bill would also allow the defense to arrange for a program of mental health treatment utilizing existing inpatient or outpatient mental health resources.

Location: Senate Public Safety

Status: 02/21/17 from committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended Re-referred to Committee on Public Safety.

Action Requested:

No action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch SB 8 (Beall).