



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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CMH BOARD COMPOSITION

House Bill 4780

Sponsor: Rep. Mary C. Brown

Committee: Mental Health

Complete to 5-14-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4780 AS INTRODUCED 5-2-91

Under the Mental Health Code, community mental health (CMH) boards normally have a maximum of 12 members. However, when two or more adjoining counties with established community mental health programs decide to merge, the code allows the size temporarily (for a maximum of up to three years after the merger) to exceed the 12-member limit.

The bill would amend the code to allow counties electing to establish a community mental health program to have, at their option, CMH boards of 12, 14, or 16 members.

Other provisions. The bill would delete existing provisions concerning non-standard CMH boards resulting from mergers of existing county programs, specify that when a merger was approved the county boards of commissioners would create a new CMH board, and include relatives of and advocates for consumers of mental health services among the groups (which now include mental health services providers, consumers, agencies, and occupations) which would have to be represented on CMH boards. The bill also would delete the requirement that CMH board members have their primary residence in the county they represent, and would change the definition of "public official" (in the section limiting the number of public officials on CMH boards to one-half the membership) to exempt people employed more than 20 hours a week by a federal, state, or local government agency. "Public official" would mean people serving in elected or appointed public offices.

MCL 330.212 et al.