

**Subject** Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center

**Authors** Norris

**Analyst** Elisabeth Klarqvist

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## Overview

This bill establishes a Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center at the Department of Health and appropriates money for the center.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center.</b></p> <p>Adds § 144.88. Establishes a Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center at the Department of Health to increase the number and diversity of providers and peers working in mental health and substance use disorder treatment and facilitate a culturally informed, responsive workforce. Lists duties of the center, including activities to analyze the availability of mental health and substance use disorder professionals and identify gaps; expose students to careers in mental health and substance use disorders fields and track the number of students graduating from programs that could lead to careers in these areas; provide resources on steps to licensure and certification and to connect employers with potential employees; identify barriers to mental health professional licensure and make recommendations to address the barriers; and examine issues related to loan forgiveness programs, graduate medical education, and internships and practicums. Beginning January 1, 2027, requires the commissioner of health to issue an annual report to certain members of the legislature regarding the center's work.</p> |
| 2 | <p><b>Appropriation; Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center.</b></p> <p>Makes a blank appropriation in fiscal year 2027 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Education Center.</p>  |