

Floor Amendment to HB 726-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2
3 AN ACT establishing a secure forensic psychiatric hospital advisory council and establishing
4 a new forensic psychiatric hospital and making an appropriation therefor.
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6 Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following and renumbering the original section 3 to
7 read as 4:
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9 3 Department of Health and Human Services; Forensic Psychiatric Hospital.

10 I. The commissioner of the department of health and human services, in consultation and
11 in collaboration with the attorney general, the commissioner of the department of corrections, and
12 the commissioner of the department of administrative services, shall administer the development
13 and implementation of construction, staffing, and operational plans for a new 60-bed forensic
14 psychiatric hospital.

15 II. The construction, operational, and staffing plans for the new 60-bed forensic psychiatric
16 hospital shall be completed by November 1, 2019. Construction shall not commence until such
17 plans are submitted to and approved by the joint legislative fiscal committee and the long range
18 capital planning and utilization committee. The new forensic psychiatric hospital shall be
19 operational by September 1, 2021.

20 III. All contracts and projects set forth in paragraphs I and II of this section, and plans and
21 specifications therefor, shall be awarded in accordance with the provisions of RSA 21-I.

22 IV. In preparation for the operation of the new 60-bed forensic psychiatric hospital, the
23 commissioner of the department of health and human services, in consultation and in collaboration
24 with the attorney general, the commissioner of the department of corrections, and the commissioner
25 of the department of administrative services, shall recommend proposed legislation for any changes
26 to statutes or administrative rules that are deemed necessary for the transition of patients to and
27 the operation of the new 60-bed forensic psychiatric hospital. In developing such recommendations,
28 and the plans and deadlines required in paragraph II, the commissioner of the department of health
29 human services shall solicit input from public and private stakeholders as the commissioner deems
30 necessary and appropriate. The commissioner of the department of health human services shall
31 submit the recommendations required by this paragraph to the speaker of the house of
32 representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor no later than November 1, 2019.

33 V. There is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services the sum of

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1 \$26,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Such funds shall be nonlapsing and shall be
2 expended for the purpose of constructing a new 60-bed forensic psychiatric hospital in accordance
3 with the provisions of this section. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out
4 of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

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2019-1456s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a secure forensic psychiatric hospital advisory council to assist the commissioner of the department of health and human services in the development of plans for and the construction of a new secure multi-purpose forensic psychiatric hospital. The council is repealed January 1, 2023.

This bill also establishes procedures and deadlines for a new 60-bed forensic psychiatric hospital and makes an appropriation for that purpose.