

# Changes to the Community Mental Health Act

A summary of new provisions in the Community Mental Health Act as passed in House Bill 475 by the 103rd General Assembly effective January 1, 2024.



The new language makes explicit that a community mental health board has the responsibility to set, maintain, and implement the budget. The community mental health board may also fix a fiscal year for the board.

The governmental unit shall appoint all members to its community mental health board within 60 days after the local election authority certifies the passage of the referendum. All Board member terms begin from the 1st day of the month instead of the 1st day of the year of the appointment. Only 1 board member shall be a member of the governmental unit's governing body, with the term of membership on the board to run concurrently with the elected term of the member

Community mental health boards are required to meet within 30 days after members are first appointed and within 30 days after members are appointed or reappointed upon the expiration of a member's term.

Within 30 days after members are appointed or reappointed, every community mental health board shall meet and organize, by the election of one of its number as president and one as secretary and other officers as deemed necessary.

Every community mental health board shall be subject to the requirements under the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act.