

MAR 8 2001

JUDICIARY

HOUSE FILE 563

BY GRUNDBERG

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a study by the judicial branch concerning
2 the establishment of mental health courts.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 563

1 Section 1. JUDICIAL BRANCH -- MENTAL HEALTH COURT STUDY.

2 The judicial branch shall conduct a study to determine the
3 possible establishment of mental health courts for nonviolent
4 criminal offenders who suffer from mental illness. The
5 judicial branch shall solicit input from members of the
6 criminal justice system, including, but not limited to,
7 judges, prosecutors, and defense counsel, and members of the
8 mental health treatment community. The judicial branch shall
9 consider whether a study commission should be established, and
10 if established, the duties, scope, and membership of the
11 commission. The judicial branch shall also consider the
12 feasibility of establishing a demonstration mental health
13 court. The judicial branch shall submit a report on the
14 study, and make recommendations, to the general assembly by
15 October 1, 2002.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill requires the judicial branch to conduct a study
18 concerning the possible establishment of a mental health court
19 in Iowa. The judicial branch shall submit a report on the
20 study to the general assembly by October 1, 2002.

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