

(1) TO BEST PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MENTAL DISORDERS, THE DIRECTOR SHALL:

(I) DIVIDE THIS STATE INTO DISTRICTS THAT CORRESPOND TO THE AVAILABILITY OF STATE FACILITIES; AND

(II) APPOINT, FOR EACH DISTRICT, A REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR WHO SHALL:

1. ACT AS A DEPUTY OF THE DIRECTOR;
2. COORDINATE THE LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS IN THE DISTRICT; AND
3. REPRESENT THE DIRECTOR IN CARRYING OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND FACILITIES OF THE DISTRICT.

(2) THE DIRECTOR MAY CHANGE THE LIMITS OF THESE DISTRICTS AS THE DIRECTOR CONSIDERS NECESSARY. THE DIRECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE GOVERNING BODY OF EACH SUBDIVISION THAT A CHANGE AFFECTS.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection is new language derived without substantive change from former Article 43, § 1J(h) and the first and second sentences of former Article 59, § 8(e).

In paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection, the defined term "State facilities" is substituted for the overly broad reference to "facilities", in accordance with the reference in former Article 43, § 1J(h) to "State psychiatric hospitals".

In paragraph (2) of this subsection, the former phrase "in his discretion" is deleted as unnecessary in light of the word "may".

The third sentence of former Article 59, § 8(e), which required the approval of the Secretary, is deleted as unnecessary in light of the broad powers of the Secretary under § 10-203 of this subtitle.

Defined terms: "Director" § 10-101
"Mental disorder" § 10-101 "Secretary" § 1-101
"State facility" § 10-101

(G) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

(1) THE DIRECTOR SHALL ESTABLISH PROGRAMS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CARE AND TREATMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MENTAL DISORDERS.