



Administrative Office of the Courts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 27, 2025

Supreme Court Chief Justice David K. Thomson issued the following statement on Senate Bill 3, the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act, which was signed into law today by the governor:

“The enactment of Senate Bill 3 illustrates how the three branches of state government – legislative, executive and judicial – can work together to help New Mexico move forward.

State courts occupy front row seats for many of the challenges facing New Mexico. With SB3 now signed into law, the Judiciary takes on the responsibility of bringing together a large team of stakeholders in behavioral health to find ways to help people struggling with mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

On behalf of the Judiciary, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will work quickly and diligently to coordinate the development of regional plans for providing behavioral health services to all areas of our state as required by SB3. The AOC will collaborate with community leaders, providers, state and local agencies, tribal governments, advocacy groups, and others to catalog available behavioral health resources, identify gaps in services and establish priorities for varying actions to meet the unique needs of the state’s various regions.

In carrying out its new role established by law, the Judiciary again demonstrates how courts work as community problem-solvers to respond to local and regional needs. In the area of behavioral health, state courts have taken the initiative to establish assisted outpatient treatment and competency diversion programs and operate mental health courts.”

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