

## **Mental Health Legislation Likely to Be Introduced in 2017**

1. Amend Mental Health Court Act and Veterans and Servicemembers Act to make eligibility the same as in the Drug Court Act  
**Status: Will be sponsored by MHAI in 2017**
2. Allow records to be shared with criminal defense counsel for purposes of bond hearings  
**Status: Will be sponsored by MHAI in 2017**
3. Amend the Election Code to allow long-term patients in state hospitals to vote in the county in which the facility is located  
**Status: HB327 did not pass--Will be sponsored in 2017 by MHAI**
4. Amend Unified Code of Corrections to permit the Department of Corrections to transfer persons with serious mental illnesses confined in a state prison to any public or private hospital willing to accept them (amends law providing transfers to DHS only--does not create any right to be transferred)  
**Status: Will be sponsored in 2017 by MHAI**
5. Amend law in response to *In re James W.*—time limits for commitment hearings are not mandatory  
**Status: SB2246 did not pass—ISBA will reintroduce in 2017**