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# SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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## SB 995 (Pérez) - Involuntary residential facilities: health and safety inspections

**Version:** April 16, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** May 4, 2026

**Policy Vote:** HEALTH 11 - 0, JUD. 12 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Agnes Lee

**Bill Summary:** SB 995 provides a regulatory framework for inspections of “involuntary residential facilities,” as specified.

### Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs, likely hundreds of thousands, for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for state administration and enforcement activities.
- The Department of Justice indicates no significant fiscal impact.
- Unknown, potential cost pressures to the courts related to additional enforcement mechanisms provided in this measure (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to fund additional staff and resources.

### Background:

CDPH Licensing of Health Facilities. CDPH is responsible for the licensing of various types of health facilities, including general acute care hospitals, acute psychiatric hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities. CDPH has regulatory oversight of these health facilities and investigates complaints to determine compliance with state laws and regulations.

Local Health Officer Inspections. Local health officers serve a number of public health functions at the local level, including infectious disease control, emergency preparedness and response, and maternal, child, and adolescent health, through 61 legally-appointed physician local health officers in California (one from each of the 58 counties and the three cities of Berkeley, Long Beach, and Pasadena). Current state law requires the county health officer to, at least annually, investigate health and sanitary conditions in a county jail, publicly operated detention facility in the county, and private work furlough facility and program. Current law authorizes the county health officer to make additional investigations of a county jail, private detention facility, or other detention facility of the county as they determine necessary.

Licensed Facilities for Involuntary Commitments. Current state law allows for the involuntary commitment of certain individuals, primarily through the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act. These individuals may be placed in facilities such as state hospitals, certain facilities licensed by the CDPH (eg. acute psychiatric hospitals), and certain facilities licensed by the Department of Health Care Services (eg. mental health treatment facilities).

**Proposed Law:** Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Define “involuntary residential facility” to mean a facility that:
  - Houses 50 or more individuals overnight.
  - Restricts residents’ ability to enter or leave the facility at will, regardless of the legal authority under which the individual is housed.
  - Provides onsite food service, medical care, mental health services, or residential supervision.
- Provide that “involuntary residential facility” includes, but is not limited to, a secure state hospital, civil commitment facility, or a secure residential treatment program, to the extent the facility meets the criteria described above; and provide that “involuntary residential facility” does not include a facility that is a state prison or a local criminal detention facility.
- Authorize the CDPH to inspect an involuntary residential facility, as defined, for the limited purpose of ensuring sanitary, hygienic, and safe conditions, using standards and inspection protocols consistent with those applied to residential health facilities licensed under existing state law and to enforce penalties for any violations; require that if, during an inspection, the CDPH identifies conditions that may fall within the jurisdiction of another agency, the department must refer those conditions to the appropriate state or local agency with jurisdiction over the facility for further review or action; and require, within 30 days of completing an inspection, the CDPH to prepare a written report of its findings and to transmit the report to the Legislature.
- Require the CDPH to adopt rules and regulations to ensure that all involuntary residential facilities comply with measurable standards for sanitary, hygienic, and safe conditions.
- Specify duties of operators of involuntary residential facilities; provide that an operator that violates the bill’s provisions, after appropriate notice and an opportunity for a hearing, is subject to an administrative penalty, as specified; and provide that CDPH may refer violations to the Attorney General and that the Attorney General may bring a civil action for declaratory or injunctive relief, as specified.

**Related Legislation:** SB 942 (Caballero) would establish a regulatory framework for inspections of “covered civil confinement facilities.” The bill is scheduled to be heard May 4, 2026 in this committee.