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H.B. No. 1488

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to sickle cell disease health care improvement and the
3 sickle cell task force.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 533, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 533.0091 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 533.0091. SICKLE CELL DISEASE TREATMENT. To the
8 extent possible, the commission shall:

9 (1) in collaboration with the sickle cell task force
10 established under Chapter 52, Health and Safety Code:

11 (A) support initiatives to assist managed care
12 plans in promoting timely, evidence-informed health care services
13 to plan enrollees diagnosed with sickle cell disease to ensure the
14 services reflect national clinical practice guidelines and
15 protocols for sickle cell disease treatment and meet medical
16 necessity criteria; and

17 (B) address sickle cell disease education for
18 Medicaid providers, including emergency department providers, by
19 collaborating with medical specialty organizations in this state,
20 state agencies, and health-related institutions to promote
21 existing or new continuing education courses or facilitate
22 development of any necessary new courses to improve the diagnosis,
23 treatment, and management of sickle cell disease and the personal
24 treatment of patients with sickle cell disease; and

1 (2) use the commission's existing data to identify
2 opportunities for improving health outcomes of recipients
3 diagnosed with sickle cell disease by:

4 (A) reducing hospital admissions and
5 readmissions; and

6 (B) connecting those recipients to a sickle cell
7 disease health home or sickle cell disease expert.

8 SECTION 2. Sections 52.0003 and 52.0007, Health and Safety
9 Code, are amended to read as follows:

10 Sec. 52.0003. COMPOSITION OF TASK FORCE. The task force is
11 composed of the following members appointed by the executive
12 commissioner:

13 (1) two members from community-based organizations
14 with experience addressing the needs of individuals with sickle
15 cell disease;

16 (2) two physicians specializing in hematology;

17 (3) three [~~two~~] members of the public, one of whom has
18 sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait and two [~~each~~] of whom
19 either have [~~has~~] sickle cell disease or are [~~is~~] a parent of a
20 person with sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait; [~~and~~]

21 (4) one representative of a health-related
22 institution;

23 (5) one representative of the Texas Education Agency;

24 (6) one representative of the commission;

25 (7) one physician with experience addressing the needs
26 of individuals with sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait;

27 (8) one researcher from a public health-related or

1 academic institution with experience addressing sickle cell
2 disease and sickle cell trait; and

3 (9) one health care professional with experience
4 addressing the needs of individuals with sickle cell disease or
5 sickle cell trait.

6 Sec. 52.0007. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) Not later than December 1
7 of each year, the task force shall prepare and submit to the
8 governor and the legislature an annual written report that
9 summarizes the task force's work and includes any recommended
10 actions or policy changes endorsed by the task force.

11 (b) The task force shall, in collaboration with the
12 commission, include in the task force's annual report
13 recommendations for improving sickle cell disease education for
14 health care providers.

15 SECTION 3. Chapter 52, Health and Safety Code, is amended by
16 adding Section 52.0008 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 52.0008. EXPIRATION. The task force is abolished and
18 this chapter expires August 31, 2035.

19 SECTION 4. Subtitle B, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is
20 amended by adding Chapter 52A to read as follows:

21 CHAPTER 52A. SICKLE CELL DISEASE CARE EDUCATION AND TREATMENT

22 Sec. 52A.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "sickle cell
23 task force" means the sickle cell task force established under
24 Chapter 52.

25 Sec. 52A.002. EMERGENCY AND PRIMARY CARE MEDICINE GRADUATE
26 MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM CURRICULUM. (a) In this section,
27 "graduate medical education program" and "medical school" have the

1 meanings assigned by Section 58A.001, Education Code.

2 (b) A medical school or graduate medical education program
3 in this state that offers an emergency medicine, family medicine,
4 internal medicine, obstetrics, or pediatrics residency program
5 shall examine and, to the extent possible, incorporate in the
6 curriculum requirements for the program education focused on sickle
7 cell disease and sickle cell trait. The medical school or graduate
8 medical education program may enter into agreements as necessary
9 for the purposes of this section.

10 Sec. 52A.003. INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
11 PERSONNEL. (a) To the extent possible, the Texas Education Agency
12 in collaboration with sickle cell disease community-based
13 organizations shall provide information on sickle cell disease and
14 sickle cell trait to public school districts and district staff,
15 including school nurses, teachers, and coaches.

16 (b) The commission in collaboration with the sickle cell
17 task force shall explore methods for improving sickle cell disease
18 education and awareness within the public school system and provide
19 recommendations to the Texas Education Agency on the improvement
20 methods.

21 SECTION 5. As soon as practicable after the effective date
22 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
23 Services Commission shall appoint the new members of the sickle
24 cell task force as required by Section 52.0003, Health and Safety
25 Code, as amended by this Act.

26 SECTION 6. Section 52A.002, Health and Safety Code, as
27 added by this Act, applies to residents entering an emergency

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1 medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics, or
2 pediatrics residency program at a medical school or graduate
3 medical education program in this state on or after January 1, 2024.

4 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.