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H.B. No. 4185

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a pilot program to award grants for personalized treatment protocols for veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 49A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 49A. VETERANS PILOT PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS FOR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER TREATMENT PROTOCOLS

Sec. 49A.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Pilot program" means the pilot program established under this chapter.

(2) "Veteran" means an individual who has served in:

(A) an active or reserve component of the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States;  
or

(B) the Texas National Guard, as defined by Section 431.001, Government Code.

Sec. 49A.002. ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) The commission, using available resources and in cooperation with a nonprofit veterans organization, shall establish and operate a pilot program to award grants for the provision of a personalized treatment protocol to at least 250 veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, including treatment-resistant

1 post-traumatic stress disorder.

2 (b) A personalized treatment protocol provided to a veteran  
3 under the pilot program must be:

4 (1) administered at the veteran's home; and

5 (2) designed to reduce neuroinflammation and  
6 replenish deficient or insufficient brain chemistry to an optimal  
7 level.

8 (c) The commission may award a grant under the pilot program  
9 only in accordance with a contract between the commission and a  
10 grant recipient. The contract must include provisions under which  
11 the commission is granted sufficient control to ensure the public  
12 purpose of providing treatment to veterans is accomplished and the  
13 state receives the return benefit.

14 (d) The commission may accept gifts, grants, and donations  
15 to operate the pilot program.

16 Sec. 49A.003. RULES. The executive commissioner shall  
17 adopt rules to implement this chapter.

18 Sec. 49A.004. REPORT. Not later than October 1, 2028, the  
19 commission shall prepare and submit to the governor, lieutenant  
20 governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and appropriate  
21 standing committees of the legislature a report that includes:

22 (1) information on the number of veterans who were  
23 provided a personalized treatment protocol under the pilot program;  
24 and

25 (2) an evaluation of the pilot program's  
26 effectiveness.

27 Sec. 49A.005. EXPIRATION. The pilot program concludes and

1 this chapter expires September 1, 2029.

2           SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
3 of this Act, the Health and Human Services Commission shall  
4 establish and begin operating the pilot program under Chapter 49A,  
5 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

6           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.