

By: Alvarado, et al.

S.B. No. 1966

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a grant program for school-based health care initiatives established to serve certain underserved students.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0606 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0606. SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE GRANT PROGRAM. (a)

In this section, "program" means the school-based health care grant program established under this section.

(b) Using legislative appropriations available for that purpose, the commission shall establish and administer a grant program for health care organizations to implement, maintain, and expand a school-based health care initiative for underserved students and to provide those students with preventative and primary health care, including:

(1) medical services;

(2) dental services;

(3) therapeutic services; and

(4) nonmedical services, such as nutritional services.

(c) The commission shall establish grant application procedures, criteria for evaluating applications and awarding grants, and procedures for monitoring the use of grants awarded under the program and ensuring compliance with any condition of a

1 grant awarded under the program.

2 (d) A grant recipient must use grant money to establish a
3 school-based health care initiative for a school district that has
4 a student population with at least 50 percent of its students who:

5 (1) are uninsured or underinsured; or

6 (2) receive free or reduced-price lunches.

7 (e) A grant recipient may provide preventative and primary
8 health care services under the program to a student younger than 18
9 years of age only if the grant recipient obtains the consent of the
10 parent or legal guardian of the student.

11 (f) The commission may award a grant under the program only
12 in accordance with a contract between the commission and a grant
13 recipient. The contract must include provisions granting the
14 commission sufficient control over the money awarded to ensure the
15 public purpose of providing health care services to underserved
16 students is accomplished and this state receives the return
17 benefit.

18 (g) This section expires on the second anniversary of the
19 date that all money appropriated for the program established under
20 this section has been expended.

21 SECTION 2. The Health and Human Services Commission is
22 required to implement a provision of this Act only if the
23 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If
24 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
25 purpose, the commission may, but is not required to, implement a
26 provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that
27 purpose.

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