

By: Alvarado

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

14 SECTION 2. The Health and Human Services Commission is  
15 required to implement a provision of this Act only if the  
16 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If  
17 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that  
18 purpose, the commission may, but is not required to, implement a  
19 provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that  
20 purpose.

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