

By: Olcott

H.B. No. 2587

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual report on certain uncompensated hospital care costs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 525, Government Code, as effective April 1, 2025, is amended by adding Section 525.0304 to read as follows:

Sec. 525.0304. ANNUAL REPORT ON UNCOMPENSATED HOSPITAL CARE PROVIDED TO PERSONS NOT LAWFULLY PRESENT. (a) In this section:

(1) "Person not lawfully present" means a person who is not:

(A) a citizen or national of the United States;
or

(B) an alien who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. Section 1101 et seq.) or authorized to be employed by that Act or the United States attorney general.

(2) "Uncompensated hospital care" means health care services provided by a hospital to a patient for which the hospital does not receive payment in full for those services.

(b) Not later than November 1 of each year, the commission shall prepare and submit to the governor and the legislature a written report for the preceding state fiscal year on:

1 (1) the cost of uncompensated hospital care incurred
2 by hospitals in this state to provide health care services to
3 patients who were persons not lawfully present at the time health
4 care services were provided to those patients; and

5 (2) the impact that incurring the costs described by
6 Subdivision (1) had on those hospitals.

7 (c) For purposes of preparing the report required by
8 Subsection (b), the executive commissioner by rule shall require
9 each hospital in this state that provides uncompensated hospital
10 care to:

11 (1) include on the hospital's patient intake form:

12 (A) a question regarding the patient's
13 citizenship or immigration status; and

14 (B) a statement that the patient's response to
15 that question will not affect any health care service provided to
16 the patient; and

17 (2) quarterly submit to the commission in the manner
18 and format prescribed by the commission a written report on:

19 (A) the number of patients who received health
20 care services from the hospital during the preceding quarter who
21 were persons not lawfully present at the time the hospital provided
22 health care services to the patients;

23 (B) the total cost of uncompensated hospital care
24 incurred by the hospital as a result of providing health care
25 services to the patients who were persons not lawfully present at
26 the time the hospital provided health care services to the
27 patients; and

1 (C) the impact on the hospital of providing
2 uncompensated hospital care to patients who were persons not
3 lawfully present at the time the hospital provided health care
4 services to the patients.

5 (d) A patient's response to the question described by
6 Subsection (c)(1)(A) may not affect the health care services
7 provided to the patient.

8 (e) The commission shall ensure the reports required under
9 this section do not include any personal identifying information.

10 SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
11 date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
12 Services Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section
13 525.0304, Government Code, as added by this Act.

14 (b) Notwithstanding Section 525.0304, Government Code, as
15 added by this Act, the Health and Human Services Commission is not
16 required to submit the initial report required by that section
17 until November 1, 2027.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.