

By: Capelo

H.B. No. 1097

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the birth defects monitoring program.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 87.021(a) and (c), Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The board shall [~~may~~] establish in the department a program to:

(1) identify and investigate certain birth defects in children; and

(2) maintain a central registry of cases of birth defects.

(c) The board and the department shall design the program so that the program will:

(1) provide information to identify risk factors and causes of birth defects;

(2) provide information on other possible causes of birth defects;

(3) provide for the development of strategies to prevent birth defects;

(4) provide for interview studies about the causes of birth defects;

(5) together with other departmental programs, contribute birth defects data to a central registry;

(6) provide for the appointment of authorized agents

1 to collect birth defects information; and

2 (7) provide for the active or~~[, not]~~ passive~~[,]~~
3 collection of birth defects information.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.