

By: Capelo

H.B. No. 1920

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain immunization programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 161.0095 to read as follows:

Sec. 161.0095. PROVIDER EDUCATION PROGRAMS. The department shall develop continuing education programs for providers relating to immunizations and the vaccines for children program operated by the department under authority of 42 U.S.C. Section 1396s, as amended. The department shall establish a work group to assist the department in developing the continuing education programs and materials. The work group shall include physicians, nurses, department representatives, representatives of managed care organizations that provide health care services under Chapter 533, Government Code, representatives of health plan providers that provide health care services under Chapter 62, and members of the public.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.063 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.063. VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM PROVIDER ENROLLMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT. (a) In this section, "vaccines for children program" means the program operated by the Texas Department of Health under authority of 42 U.S.C. Section 1396s, as amended.

1       (b) The commission shall ensure that a provider can enroll  
2 in the vaccines for children program on the same form the provider  
3 completes to apply as a Medicaid health care provider.

4       (c) The commission shall allow providers to report vaccines  
5 administered under the vaccines for children program to the  
6 immunization registry established under Section 161.007, Health  
7 and Safety Code, and to use the immunization registry, including  
8 individually identifiable information in accordance with state and  
9 federal law, to determine whether a child has received an  
10 immunization.

11       SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.