

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 38

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. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND PHYSICIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS. (a) The department shall develop informational materials and continuing education programs for physicians 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 educational materials shall address the administrative requirements of the vaccines for children program, including requirements for vaccine storage, paperwork, and physician evaluation.

(b) 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, 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

1 amended.

2 (b) The commission shall ensure that a provider can enroll
3 in the vaccines for children program on the same form the provider
4 completes to apply as:

5 (1) a Medicaid health care provider; and

6 (2) a children's health insurance program health care
7 provider.

8 (c) The commission shall allow providers to use the
9 immunization registry established under Section 161.007, Health
10 and Safety Code, to report vaccines administered under the vaccines
11 for children program.

12 (d) The commission shall reimburse providers under Medicaid
13 and the children's health insurance program for vaccines
14 administered under the vaccines for children program at a rate that
15 covers the cost of administering the vaccines under the program and
16 a reasonable profit for the provider.

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