

1-1 By: Shapleigh S.B. No. 525  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 17, 2003; February 19, 2003,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human  
1-4 Services; April 14, 2003, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1; April 14, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the creation of employee wellness programs by state  
1-9 agencies.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Chapter 664, Government Code, is amended by  
1-12 adding Section 664.007 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 664.007. EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM. (a) Each state  
1-14 agency shall designate an individual as the wellness coordinator  
1-15 for the agency. The wellness coordinator may collaborate with  
1-16 other agencies and sources to provide information and resources to  
1-17 employees through bulletin boards and e-mail. The employee  
1-18 wellness program may include:

1-19 (1) an agency wellness center staffed by a nurse  
1-20 practitioner who provides employees with services such as blood  
1-21 pressure monitoring and annual health assessments;

1-22 (2) ergonomic office equipment;

1-23 (3) nutrition education;

1-24 (4) smoking cessation programs; and

1-25 (5) contracts with fitness centers for reduced  
1-26 membership fees for state employees with a portion of the fees paid  
1-27 by the state.

1-28 (b) A state agency with fewer than 100 employees may join  
1-29 with a state agency with 100 employees or more to create a program  
1-30 under this section and to share resources under the program.

1-31 (c) A state agency may consult with the Texas Department of  
1-32 Health on wellness issues.

1-33 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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