

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 864

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the promotion of breast-feeding.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 165, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 165.0035 to read as follows:

Sec. 165.0035. PHYSICIAN DESIGNATION AS "BREAST-FEEDING FRIENDLY." (a) A physician licensed to practice in this state may use the designation "breast-feeding friendly" in promotional materials if the physician develops a policy supporting breast-feeding. The policy must require the physician to:

(1) provide breast-feeding training for the physician's staff who provide health care services to patients;

(2) encourage pregnant women to breast-feed their children after birth;

(3) provide breast-feeding information and materials to pregnant women and mothers with infants;

(4) provide information on local breast-feeding support groups to pregnant women and mothers with infants; and

(5) provide breast-feeding consultations to mothers with infants and contact the mothers by telephone to provide breast-feeding information and assistance.

(b) The physician must submit the physician's breast-feeding policy to the department. The department shall maintain a list of "breast-feeding friendly" physicians covered

1 under this section and shall make the list available for public
2 inspection at the department and on the Internet.

3 (c) The department shall publicize the program to all
4 obstetricians, pediatricians, family practice physicians, and
5 general practice physicians who are licensed in this state.

6 SECTION 2. The Texas Department of Health shall develop and
7 make available the list required by Section 165.0035, Health and
8 Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2004.

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