

AN ACT

relating to excepting certain governmental bodies from deliberating in an open meeting certain matters that involve the medical or psychiatric records of an individual.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 551, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 551.0785 to read as follows:

Sec. 551.0785. DELIBERATIONS INVOLVING MEDICAL OR PSYCHIATRIC RECORDS OF INDIVIDUALS. This chapter does not require a benefits appeals committee for a public self-funded health plan or a governmental body that administers a public insurance, health, or retirement plan to conduct an open meeting to deliberate:

(1) the medical records or psychiatric records of an individual applicant for a benefit from the plan; or

(2) a matter that includes a consideration of information in the medical or psychiatric records of an individual applicant for a benefit from the plan.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 984 passed the Senate on April 16, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 9, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 984 passed the House, with amendment, on May 6, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor