

By: West

S.B. No. 1075

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a health and human services commission study of the  
3 state response to abuse or neglect of certain older individuals.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

6 (1) "Commission" means the health and human services  
7 commission.

8 (2) "Health and human services agency" means any of  
9 the health and human services agencies described by Section  
10 531.001, Government Code.

11 SECTION 2. STUDY OF STATE RESPONSE TO ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF  
12 OLDER INDIVIDUALS. (a) The commission shall conduct a study of the  
13 roles of each health and human services agency charged to respond to  
14 abuse or neglect of older individuals in this state.

15 (b) In conducting the study, the commission:

16 (1) shall consult with each health and human services  
17 agency in this state that provides services to older individuals in  
18 this state or that monitors or regulates those services, including  
19 the long-term care ombudsman of the Texas Department of Aging; and

20 (2) may consult with the elder law division of the  
21 office of the attorney general, other appropriate state agencies,  
22 appropriate advocacy and consumer groups, and consumers.

23 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than December 1, 2004, the  
24 commission shall report the results of the study conducted under

1 this Act to the governor, lieutenant governor, and the speaker of  
2 the house of representatives. The report must:

3 (1) identify duplication of services provided by  
4 health and human services agencies to protect older individuals  
5 from abuse and neglect and include recommendations to eliminate any  
6 duplication identified;

7 (2) address areas in which services provided by health  
8 and human services agencies to protect older individuals from abuse  
9 and neglect fail to meet identified needs or to serve identified  
10 populations and include recommendations to meet those needs and  
11 serve those populations; and

12 (3) include recommendations to improve collaboration  
13 among health and human services agencies charged to respond to  
14 abuse or neglect of older individuals in this state.

15 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires January 1, 2005.

16 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
17 1, 2003.