

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 1824

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the vendor drug program.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Subchapter C to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C. PRACTITIONER-MANAGED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

Sec. 32.101. PLAN ADOPTION. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt a practitioner-managed prescription drug plan as part of the vendor drug program. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that eligible recipients receive the most effective prescription drug available at the best price.

(b) Before adopting the practitioner-managed prescription drug plan, the Health and Human Services Commission shall conduct public meetings and consult with representatives of the regulatory boards and associations representing practitioners who participate in the vendor drug program.

(c) The practitioner-managed prescription drug plan adopted under this section shall allow:

(1) a practitioner to prescribe any drug that the practitioner believes to be the most effective treatment for a recipient enrollee;

(2) a practitioner to determine the scope and duration of treatment of chronic conditions, including arthritis, diabetes, and asthma; and

1           (3) an eligible recipient to appeal to the Health and  
2 Human Services Commission a decision of a practitioner or the  
3 commission not to provide a prescription drug requested by the  
4 recipient.

5           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.