

Amend **CSSB 1188** by adding the following appropriately numbered section:

Section __. The speaker and lieutenant governor shall create a joint interim committee to study and make recommendations to the legislature relating to how Medicaid and other supportive medical care services can be more effectively delivered through regional planning involving all relevant stakeholders in rural, border, and urban counties and the surrounding rural or suburban communities. Specifically, the study should: (1) identify incentives and resources necessary to promote personal responsibility and accountability, encourage preventive care, and expand use of available primary care services; (2) identify cost-effective technological innovations to improve health care access and coordination, such as telemedicine or automated medical records; (3) improve access and availability to primary care services; (4) improve access to secondary and tertiary care in rural communities; (5) identify how health care services can be improved through collaboration across funding streams, such as the Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicaid, and private insurance; (6) make recommendations to improve the capacity of public health entities in Texas to comply with the Centers for Disease Control National Public Health Performance Standards; (7) identify successful strategies and recommend incentives to develop multicounty public health entities authorized to collaborate to ensure that the essential public health services as authorized in Section 121.002, Health and Safety Code, are available to all Texans; (8) evaluate the role of existing regional public health entities and make recommendations to optimize their capacity to assume responsibility for the foregoing purposes or create additional regional entities as needed; and (9) recommend appropriate funding levels needed to implement the committee's recommendations.