

By: Uresti

H.B. No. 799

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation of an online medical passport for foster
3 children.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 264, Family Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 264.117 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 264.117. ONLINE MEDICAL PASSPORT. (a) The department
8 shall develop and implement an Internet-based medical passport for
9 each foster child. The passport must be maintained in an electronic
10 format and use the department's existing computer resources to the
11 greatest extent possible.

12 (b) The medical passport must include:

13 (1) the name and address of each of the child's health
14 care providers;

15 (2) a record of each visit to a health care provider,
16 including routine checkups conducted in accordance with the Texas
17 Health Steps program;

18 (3) an immunization record;

19 (4) a list of the child's known medical problems;

20 (5) information on all medications prescribed to the
21 child; and

22 (6) any other medical history that the department
23 determines is important.

24 (c) The Internet-based system used to access the medical

1 passport must:

2 (1) be secure and maintain the confidentiality of the
3 child's medical records;

4 (2) be accessible from any computer that has access to
5 the Internet, without requiring the purchase by a physician or
6 other health care provider of additional hardware or software; and

7 (3) allow a physician or other health care provider to
8 update the passport from the Internet.

9 (d) The passport shall be part of the department's record
10 for the child as long as the child remains in foster care.

11 (e) The department shall provide training or instructional
12 materials to foster parents, physicians, and other health care
13 providers regarding use of the medical passport.

14 (f) To the extent possible, the department shall ensure that
15 the medical passport is operated in coordination with fraud
16 prevention activities conducted by the department or the Health and
17 Human Services Commission.

18 SECTION 2. Not later than March 1, 2006, the Department of
19 Family and Protective Services shall implement the online medical
20 passport required by Section 264.117, Family Code, as added by this
21 Act.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.