

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 1366

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Legislative Blue Ribbon Panel on Aging Issues.

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

SECTION 1. BLUE RIBBON PANEL ESTABLISHED. The Blue Ribbon Panel on Aging Issues is established to study issues relating to the aging population of Texas and to address the needs of that population.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION. In this Act, "panel" means the Blue Ribbon Panel on Aging Issues.

SECTION 3. COMPOSITION OF PANEL. (a) The panel is composed of:

(1) two members of the public appointed by the governor;

(2) two members of the senate and one public member appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

(3) two members of the house of representatives and one public member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) A member of the panel serves at the pleasure of the appointing official.

(c) The panel shall elect a presiding officer from among the members of the panel.

(d) A public member of the panel may be reimbursed for the expenses incurred by the member while conducting the business of

1 the panel at the rate established in the General Appropriations  
2 Act.

3 SECTION 4. PANEL POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The panel shall:

4 (1) meet at the call of the presiding officer;

5 (2) receive information about rules proposed or  
6 adopted by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
7 Services Commission relating to the aging population;

8 (3) review specific recommendations for legislation  
9 proposed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
10 Services Commission, a health and human services agency described  
11 by Section 531.001, Government Code, or the attorney general  
12 relating to the aging population;

13 (4) monitor the effectiveness and efficacy of the  
14 regulatory systems of this state relating to the aging population;  
15 and

16 (5) request reports and other information from the  
17 executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission,  
18 a health and human services agency described by Section 531.001,  
19 Government Code, and the attorney general relating to the aging  
20 population.

21 (b) The panel shall use the existing staff resources of the  
22 senate and the house of representatives to assist the panel in  
23 performing its duties under this section.

24 SECTION 5. REPORT. (a) The panel shall submit a report  
25 based on its findings to the 81st Legislature not later than  
26 September 1, 2008.

27 (b) The report must include:

1           (1) identification of significant problems in the  
2 regulatory systems related to the aging population, with  
3 recommendations for action;

4           (2) the effectiveness and efficiency of the regulatory  
5 systems of this state related to the aging population, with  
6 recommendations for any necessary research;

7           (3) an analysis of the types of services available to  
8 the aging citizens of this state; and

9           (4) recommendations for legislative action.

10           SECTION 6. APPOINTMENT OF PANEL.     The governor, the  
11 lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
12 representatives shall appoint members of the Blue Ribbon Panel on  
13 Aging Issues, as created by this Act, not later than the 30th day  
14 after the effective date of this Act.

15           SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.     This Act takes effect  
16 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
17 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
18 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
19 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.