

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creating the Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force.

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

SECTION 1. The state finds that the treatment of chronic kidney disease is a tremendous expense and that the early diagnosis and effective treatment of chronic kidney disease can prolong lives and delay the high cost of medical treatment, including dialysis and transplantation.

SECTION 2. Subtitle D, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 98 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 98. CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE TASK FORCE

Sec. 98.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of State Health Services.

(2) "Task force" means the Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force.

Sec. 98.002. CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE TASK FORCE. (a) The Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force is composed of:

- (1) nine members appointed by the governor as follows:
- (A) one family practice physician;
  - (B) one pathologist;
  - (C) one representative from a nephrology department of a state medical school;
  - (D) one nephrologist in private practice;

1           (E) one representative of the National Kidney  
2 Foundation or its state affiliate;

3           (F) one representative from the department;

4           (G) one representative of an insurer that issues  
5 a preferred provider benefit plan or of a health maintenance  
6 organization;

7           (H) one representative of clinical laboratories;  
8 and

9           (I) one representative of private renal care  
10 providers;

11           (2) two members of the senate appointed by the  
12 lieutenant governor; and

13           (3) two members of the house of representatives  
14 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

15           (b) The governor shall designate a member of the task force  
16 to serve as the presiding officer of the task force. The presiding  
17 officer serves at the will of the governor.

18           (c) Appointments to the task force shall be made without  
19 regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or  
20 national origin of the appointees.

21           Sec. 98.003. DUTIES. The task force shall:

22           (1) develop a plan to educate health care  
23 professionals about the advantages and methods of early screening,  
24 diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease and  
25 complications related to chronic kidney disease based on the Kidney  
26 Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative Clinical Practice Guidelines  
27 for Chronic Kidney Disease or other medically recognized clinical

1 practice guidelines;

2 (2) develop a plan to educate health care  
3 professionals and individuals with chronic kidney disease about the  
4 advantages of end-stage renal disease modality education and early  
5 renal replacement therapy, including in-center dialysis, home  
6 hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis as well as other access options,  
7 and transplantation, before the onset of end-stage renal disease  
8 when kidney function is declining; and

9 (3) make recommendations on the implementation of a  
10 cost-effective plan for early screening, diagnosis, and treatment  
11 of chronic kidney disease for the state's population.

12 Sec. 98.004. REIMBURSEMENT. A member of the task force is  
13 not entitled to compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for  
14 the member's actual and necessary expenses in attending meetings of  
15 the task force and performing other official duties authorized by  
16 the presiding officer.

17 Sec. 98.005. ASSISTANCE. The department shall provide  
18 administrative support to the task force, including necessary staff  
19 and meeting facilities.

20 Sec. 98.006. REPORT. Not later than January 1, 2009, the  
21 task force shall submit its findings and recommendations to:

22 (1) the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of  
23 the house of representatives; and

24 (2) the presiding officers of the Senate Committee on  
25 Health and Human Services and the Public Health Committee of the  
26 house of representatives, or the appropriate committees of the 81st  
27 Legislature.

1       Sec. 98.007. FUNDING. (a) The task force, through the  
2 department, may accept gifts and grants from individuals, private  
3 or public organizations, or federal or local funds to support the  
4 task force.

5       (b) The department shall investigate any potential sources  
6 of funding from federal grants or programs.

7       Sec. 98.008. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW. Chapter 2110,  
8 Government Code, does not apply to the task force.

9       Sec. 98.009. EXPIRATION. The task force is abolished and  
10 this chapter expires on September 1, 2009.

11       SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.