

By: Bohac

H.B. No. 1455

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the establishment of a pilot program in certain
3 counties to require health and human services providers to provide
4 screening to prevent fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section:

7 (1) "Center for Health Statistics" means the Center
8 for Health Statistics of the Department of State Health Services.

9 (2) "Health and human services provider" means a
10 health care provider that receives public money from a program
11 under Title IV, Title V, Title XIX, or Title XX, Social Security Act
12 (42 U.S.C. Section 301 et seq.), and that provides health and human
13 services to women in the counties in the pilot program under this
14 section. The term includes:

15 (A) a primary health care provider;

16 (B) an obstetrical or gynecological service
17 provider;

18 (C) a prenatal and family planning service
19 provider;

20 (D) a family protective service program
21 provider; and

22 (E) a women, infants, and children clinic.

23 (b) The Office for the Prevention of Developmental
24 Disabilities, Department of State Health Services, and Department

1 of Family and Protective Services shall establish a pilot program
2 to:

3 (1) support public and private efforts to identify
4 women who are at risk for an alcohol-exposed pregnancy through the
5 creation of a network of health and human services providers that
6 screen women of childbearing age for alcohol consumption; and

7 (2) provide alcohol education to women between the
8 ages of 18 and 44 years.

9 (c) The pilot program shall be conducted in three urban
10 counties each of which have a population of more than one million
11 have reported a high percentage of women who engage in frequent
12 consumption of alcoholic beverages.

13 (d) In developing the pilot program under this section, the
14 Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities,
15 Department of State Health Services, and Department of Family and
16 Protective Services shall, for the counties of the pilot program:

17 (1) develop an action plan to require each health and
18 human services provider to:

19 (A) screen for alcohol consumption by women who
20 are between the ages of 18 and 44 years and are receiving services
21 from the provider; and

22 (B) provide data on the results of the screening
23 conducted under Paragraph (A) of this subdivision to the Department
24 of State Health Services;

25 (2) adopt rules that:

26 (A) establish minimum standards for screening
27 women for alcohol consumption in health and human services programs

1 and for reporting the screening data to the Center for Health
2 Statistics;

3 (B) require a health and human services provider
4 that is licensed in this state and that treats children or women of
5 childbearing age to document in each child's or woman's medical
6 record any known substance abuse or any alcohol consumption that
7 exceeds more than four drinks on one occasion by the woman or by the
8 child's mother during the mother's pregnancy with the child;

9 (C) establish minimum standards for:

10 (i) treating women who are pregnant or at
11 risk for an alcohol-exposed pregnancy and who are enrolled in a
12 chemical dependency treatment program; and

13 (ii) reporting the treatment data to the
14 Center for Health Statistics;

15 (D) give the highest priority for access to
16 chemical dependency treatment to women who are at risk for an
17 alcohol-exposed pregnancy; and

18 (E) require the dissemination of information on
19 the prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders to all women of
20 childbearing age receiving services from a health and human
21 services provider;

22 (3) train, under a written training protocol:

23 (A) physicians, physician assistants, nurses,
24 caseworkers, and family protective services workers to administer
25 an alcohol consumption screening tool and to report the data
26 collected to the Center for Health Statistics; and

27 (B) counselors to administer a brief fetal

1 alcohol spectrum disorders intervention to women of childbearing
2 age who are enrolled in chemical dependency treatment;

3 (4) analyze:

4 (A) the screening data reported by health and
5 human services providers to the Center for Health Statistics; and

6 (B) the intervention data of women enrolled in
7 treatment reported by health and human services providers to the
8 Center for Health Statistics;

9 (5) determine, from the data under Subdivision (4) of
10 this subsection, the number of women who may be at risk for an
11 alcohol-exposed pregnancy; and

12 (6) disseminate information on the prevention of fetal
13 alcohol spectrum disorders to all women of childbearing age
14 receiving services from a health and human services provider.

15 (e) The Office for the Prevention of Developmental
16 Disabilities, Department of State Health Services, and Department
17 of Family and Protective Services shall report the findings of the
18 pilot program conducted under this section to the legislature not
19 later than December 1, 2009.

20 (f) This section expires January 1, 2011.

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.