

AN ACT

relating to a public awareness campaign concerning certain solicitations for the purchase of prescription drugs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 402, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 402.031 to read as follows:

Sec. 402.031. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN CONCERNING CERTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUG SOLICITATIONS. (a) The office of the attorney general shall develop a public awareness campaign to educate consumers concerning solicitations for the sale of prescription drugs that are made using electronic mail or the Internet.

(b) The public awareness campaign must emphasize the existence of reputable pharmacies and pharmacists that provide services through the Internet and must provide information to assist a consumer in distinguishing a reputable pharmacy or pharmacist from a seller that may be unlicensed or fraudulent.

(c) In developing the public awareness campaign, the office of the attorney general shall consult with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, trade associations representing the interests of pharmacies and pharmacists in this state, and advocates for consumer protection.

(d) In conducting the public awareness campaign, the office of the attorney general may distribute information using:

(1) brochures;

1 (2) advertisements, articles, or editorials in
2 newspapers or other publications;

3 (3) radio or television public service announcements;

4 (4) the Internet; or

5 (5) other appropriate means.

6 (e) The attorney general may, in accordance with Section
7 402.005, accept gifts, grants, and donations to support the public
8 awareness campaign.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1676 was passed by the House on March 28, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1676 on May 1, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1676 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on April 26, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor