

By: Chisum, Flynn, Zedler, Davis of Harris,
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H.B. No. 2683

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to funding for programs that support the development of
3 healthy marriages or the strengthening of families.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Human Resources Code,
6 is amended by adding Sections 31.017 and 31.018 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 31.017. HEALTHY MARRIAGES AND STRONG FAMILIES GRANT
8 PROGRAM. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission may
9 administer a grant program to provide grants in amounts not to
10 exceed \$50,000 to programs for low-income persons that support the
11 development of healthy marriages or strengthening of families. The
12 programs may use grant money to assist those programs in enlarging
13 their capacity or in paying other program expenses.

14 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
15 Services Commission may adopt rules to implement this section.

16 Sec. 31.018. MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROGRAM FUNDING. To the
17 extent authorized by federal law, the Health and Human Services
18 Commission shall spend a minimum of one percent of money received
19 under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block
20 grant during each state fiscal biennium to fund programs for
21 low-income persons that support the development of healthy
22 marriages or the strengthening of families, including the healthy
23 marriage development program under Section 31.015 and the healthy
24 marriages and strong families grant program under Section 31.017.

1 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
2 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
3 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
4 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
5 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
6 waiver or authorization is granted.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.