

By: Vo

H.B. No. 2889

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a report on the quality and status of health care for veterans at veteran facilities operated in this state.

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

SECTION 1. Section 434.007, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 434.007. DUTIES. The commission shall:

(1) compile federal, state, and local laws enacted to benefit members of the armed forces, veterans, and their families and dependents;

(2) collect information relating to:

(A) services and facilities available to veterans; and

(B) the status and quality of health care in veteran facilities operated in this state by this state, the federal government, or a private entity;

(3) not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year:

(A) publish and make available to the public a report on the status and quality of health care in veteran facilities described by Subdivision (2)(B); and

(B) submit the report to both houses of the legislature and the governor;

(4) cooperate with veterans service agencies in the

1 state;

2 (5) [~~(4)~~] inform members and veterans of the armed  
3 forces, their families and dependents, and military and civilian  
4 authorities about the existence or availability of:

5 (A) educational training and retraining  
6 facilities;

7 (B) health, medical, rehabilitation, and housing  
8 services and facilities;

9 (C) employment and reemployment services;

10 (D) provisions of federal, state, and local law  
11 affording rights, privileges, and benefits to members and veterans  
12 of the armed forces and their families and dependents; and

13 (E) other similar, related, or appropriate  
14 matters;

15 (6) [~~(5)~~] assist veterans and their families and  
16 dependents in presenting, proving, and establishing claims,  
17 privileges, rights, and benefits they may have under federal,  
18 state, or local law;

19 (7) [~~(6)~~] cooperate with all government and private  
20 agencies securing services or benefits to veterans and their  
21 families and dependents;

22 (8) [~~(7)~~] investigate, and if possible correct,  
23 abuses or exploitation of veterans or their families or dependents,  
24 and recommend necessary legislation for full correction;

25 (9) [~~(8)~~] coordinate the services and activities of  
26 state departments and divisions having services and resources  
27 affecting veterans or their families or dependents; and

1            (10) [~~(9)~~] provide training and certification of  
2 veterans county service officers and assistant veterans county  
3 service officers in accordance with Section 434.038.

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