

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a review committee to study the provision of indigent health care through county and regional health care services.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "region" means the area formed by the counties in public health region three of this state as established by the Department of State Health Services.

(b) The regional health care systems review committee is created to conduct public hearings regarding, and to study the implications of, implementing regional health care service to address indigent health care in the region.

(c) The committee consists of:

(1) each member of the legislature who represents a district that contains territory in the region;

(2) each county commissioner of a county located in the region;

(3) each county judge in the region; and

(4) the chief executive officer of each public, for-profit, and nonprofit hospital system in the region.

(d) In conducting hearings and studies, the committee shall:

(1) examine whether a regional system to provide indigent health care should be offered throughout the region;

1 (2) examine whether there should be a mechanism for
2 additional counties to participate in the regional health care
3 system; and

4 (3) perform a review of funding and financing options,
5 including a review of funding indigent health care in the region.

6 (e) The initial meeting of the committee must take place
7 before September 30, 2007. At the initial meeting the committee
8 shall:

9 (1) adopt rules governing the committee; and

10 (2) establish a work plan and schedule for future
11 meetings.

12 (f) The committee may accept gifts, grants, technical
13 support, or any other resources from any source to carry out the
14 functions of the committee.

15 (g) Not later than September 1, 2008, the committee shall
16 issue a report on indigent health care that summarizes:

17 (1) hearings conducted by the committee;

18 (2) studies conducted by the committee;

19 (3) any legislation proposed by the committee; and

20 (4) any other findings or recommendations of the
21 committee.

22 (h) Not later than December 1, 2008, the committee shall
23 submit a copy of the summary report to the governor, the lieutenant
24 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives.

25 (i) This section expires September 1, 2009.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3154 was passed by the House on May 9, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3154 on May 25, 2007, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 3154 on May 28, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 3154

I certify that H.B. No. 3154 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 3154 on May 27, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor