

By: Delisi

H.B. No. 3465

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a low-income pool using certain federal funds.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter N to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER N. LOW-INCOME POOL

Sec. 531.501. AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN FEDERAL WAIVER FOR POOLED FUNDS. The executive commissioner may seek a waiver under Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1315) to the state Medicaid plan to allow the commission to more efficiently and effectively use federal money provided under the disproportionate share hospitals and upper payment limit supplemental payment programs to offset and reduce costs associated with providing uncompensated health care in this state by:

(1) depositing that money into a pooled fund; and

(2) apportioning the money in the fund between the

following:

(A) providing reimbursements to health care providers for providing uncompensated health care; and

(B) providing subsidies to assist uninsured persons in obtaining health care coverage.

Sec. 531.502. IMPLEMENTATION OF LOW-INCOME POOL. If a waiver authorized by Section 531.501 is approved:

1 (1) the low-income pool is established in accordance
2 with the terms of the waiver; and

3 (2) the executive commissioner by rule shall adopt a
4 methodology for apportioning money in the pool between the purposes
5 described by Section 531.501(2).

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