

By: Rose

H.B. No. 3574

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the redesigned integrated eligibility and benefits determination system for health and human services.

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

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF REDESIGNED INTEGRATED ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS DETERMINATION SYSTEM. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall develop a plan for the implementation of the redesigned integrated eligibility and benefits determination system for health and human services in additional regions of this state.

(b) The plan must:

(1) identify the criteria for determining whether the system should be implemented in an additional region of this state, including performance criteria on any readiness assessment test for the system; and

(2) provide for oversight of the conversion to the system in any additional areas.

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR INTEGRATED ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS DETERMINATION. (a) In this section, "committee" means the integrated eligibility and benefits determination system oversight committee.

(b) The committee is composed of:

(1) the chair of the House Human Services Committee, or its successor;

1 (2) the chair of the Senate Health and Human Services
2 Committee, or its successor;

3 (3) the chair of the House Public Health Committee, or
4 its successor;

5 (4) one member of the Senate Finance Committee, or its
6 successor, appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

7 (5) one member of the House Appropriations Committee,
8 or its successor, appointed by the speaker of the house of
9 representatives.

10 (c) The members of the committee shall elect a presiding
11 officer.

12 (d) The committee meets at the call of the presiding
13 officer.

14 (e) The committee shall monitor and assess:

15 (1) the performance of persons and entities
16 contracting with the Health and Human Services Commission to
17 implement the redesigned integrated eligibility and benefits
18 determination system for health and human services, including
19 persons and entities contracting under Section 531.063, Government
20 Code, for the operation of a call center;

21 (2) the performance of subcontractors of the
22 contractors described by Subdivision (1) that contract to implement
23 a component of the system; and

24 (3) the implementation of the Texas Integrated
25 Eligibility and Redesign System.

26 (f) The committee shall submit periodic reports to the
27 standing committees of the senate and house of representatives

1 having primary jurisdiction over health and human services
2 programs. The reports must specify any performance criteria
3 included in a contract described by Subsection (e)(1) or (2) of this
4 section with which a contractor is not complying.

5 SECTION 3. REQUIRED PROVISIONS FOR INTEGRATED ELIGIBILITY
6 AND BENEFITS DETERMINATION CONTRACTS. (a) The executive
7 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
8 ensure that contract provisions requiring effective communications
9 are included in:

10 (1) each contract with a person or entity for the
11 implementation of a component of the redesigned integrated
12 eligibility and benefits determination system for health and human
13 services, including a contract under Section 531.063, Government
14 Code, for the operation of a call center; and

15 (2) each contract between a contractor described by
16 Subdivision (1) of this subsection and a subcontractor for the
17 implementation of a component of the system.

18 (b) The provisions required by Subsection (a) of this
19 section must include specific requirements regarding:

20 (1) communication between the commission and the
21 contractor or subcontractor; and

22 (2) communication between the legislature and the
23 contractor or subcontractor.

24 (c) In addition to the requirements prescribed by
25 Subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the executive commissioner
26 shall ensure that a contract between the commission and a
27 contractor described by Subsection (a)(1) of this section clearly

1 specifies the entity responsible for making the ultimate
2 determination of eligibility of an applicant for a health and human
3 services program.

4 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
5 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
6 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
7 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
8 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.