

By: Nelson

S.B. No. 1248

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the University of North Texas Health Science Center Health Institutes of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 105, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER
HEALTH INSTITUTES OF TEXAS

Sec. 105.551. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "institute" means the University of North Texas Health Science Center Health Institutes of Texas.

Sec. 105.552. ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTE. The board shall establish the University of North Texas Health Science Center Health Institutes of Texas.

Sec. 105.553. ROLE AND SCOPE OF INSTITUTE. (a) The institute shall include centers created by the board including the Texas Center for Health Outcomes, the Texas Center for Translational Research, and the Texas Center for Primary and Rural Care. The institute shall:

(1) provide a discovery-to-delivery approach in developing comprehensive solutions for critical health care problems;

(2) proactively map health issues based on demographics, mortality and morbidity, and health care utilization

1 through focused collaboration of internal and external
2 researchers, caregivers, and policy makers, enabling the institute
3 to compete for external funding from governmental and
4 nongovernmental entities; and

5 (3) build new models of health care provider training
6 and delivery.

7 (b) The institute may include any public or private medical,
8 dental, nursing, or other health care or educational institution
9 for participation in its programs in the area served by the
10 institute.

11 (c) The institute may participate in educational programs
12 as determined appropriate by the board.

13 (d) The board may execute and carry out affiliation or
14 coordination agreements with any other educational entity or
15 institution in the region, including a traditional or other health
16 service provider, to establish or to participate in the
17 establishment or operation of the institute.

18 Sec. 105.554. MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTE. (a) The board
19 shall assign responsibility for the management of the institute to
20 the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth.

21 (b) The operating costs of the institute shall be paid from
22 operating funds of the University of North Texas Health Science
23 Center at Fort Worth or of any other participating institution and
24 from available funds of any other public or private entity.

25 Sec. 105.555. AREAS OF INSTITUTE EDUCATION. (a) The
26 institute may be used to provide graduate education or other levels
27 of health education in the area served by the institute in

1 connection with any component school or college within the
2 University of North Texas System as the board determines
3 appropriate.

4 (b) The institute, in providing education under this
5 subchapter, may:

6 (1) use community outreach programs to provide persons
7 receiving education at the institute with any necessary experience;
8 and

9 (2) conduct research programs related to:

10 (A) areas in which education or outreach programs
11 are provided by the institute; or

12 (B) public health issues arising in or prevalent
13 in the area served by the institute.

14 Sec. 105.556. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The board may solicit,
15 accept, and administer gifts and grants from any public or private
16 person or entity for the use and benefit of the institute.

17 Sec. 105.557. COORDINATING BOARD SUPERVISION. The
18 institute is subject to the continuing supervision of the Texas
19 Higher Education Coordinating Board under Chapter 61 and to the
20 rules adopted by the coordinating board under Chapter 61.

21 Sec. 105.558. IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTITUTE. (a) The board
22 is required to implement the institute only if the legislature
23 appropriates money specifically for that purpose.

24 (b) This section expires on the last day of the first state
25 fiscal year for which an appropriation is specifically made to
26 implement the institute.

27 SECTION 2. Not later than August 31, 2008, the Texas Higher

1 Education Coordinating Board shall prepare an impact statement
2 examining the initial implementation of this Act and shall deliver
3 a copy of the statement to the board of regents of the University of
4 North Texas System and to the chairs of the standing committees of
5 each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher
6 education.

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