

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 1453

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1453:

By: Rose

C.S.H.B. No. 1453

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to long-term care consumer information made available through the Internet.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0318 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0318. LONG-TERM CARE CONSUMER INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTERNET. (a) The Internet site maintained under Section 531.0317 must include information for consumers concerning long-term care services that complies with this section. The Internet site maintained by the Department of Aging and Disability Services must also include, or provide a link to, the information required by this section.

(b) The information for consumers required by this section must:

(1) be presented in a manner that is easily accessible to, and understandable by, a consumer; and

(2) allow a consumer to make informed choices concerning long-term care services and include:

(A) an explanation of the manner in which long-term care service delivery is administered in different counties through different programs operated by the commission and by the Department of Aging and Disability Services, so that an individual can easily understand the service options available in

1 the area in which that individual lives; and

2 (B) for the Medicaid Star + Plus pilot program,  
3 information that allows a consumer to evaluate the performance of  
4 each participating plan issuer, including for each issuer, in an  
5 accessible format such as a table:

6 (i) the enrollment in each county;

7 (ii) additional "value-added" services  
8 provided;

9 (iii) a summary of the financial  
10 statistical report required under Subchapter A, Chapter 533;

11 (iv) complaint information;

12 (v) any sanction or penalty imposed by any  
13 state agency, including a sanction or penalty imposed by the  
14 commission or the Texas Department of Insurance;

15 (vi) information concerning consumer  
16 satisfaction; and

17 (vii) other data, including relevant data  
18 from reports of external quality review organizations, that may be  
19 used by the consumer to evaluate the quality of the services  
20 provided.

21 (c) In addition to providing the information required by  
22 this section through the Internet, the commission or the Department  
23 of Aging and Disability Services shall, on request by a consumer  
24 without Internet access, provide the consumer with a printed copy  
25 of the information from the website. The commission or department  
26 may charge a reasonable fee for printing the information.

27 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 1, 2010, the Health

1 and Human Services Commission shall make the information required  
2 by Section 531.0318, Government Code, as added by this Act,  
3 available through the Internet.

4 (b) In developing the information required to be made  
5 available under this Act, the Health and Human Services Commission  
6 shall incorporate long-term care provider quality information  
7 reported through the Department of Aging and Disability Services  
8 Internet site, as well as other appropriate available information  
9 concerning the quality of services provided through the long-term  
10 care service delivery programs operated by that department.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.