

By: Thompson

H.B. No. 1574

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a statewide autism spectrum disorders resource center.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 114, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 114.013 to read as follows:

Sec. 114.013. AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS RESOURCE CENTER.

(a) The Health and Human Services Commission shall establish and administer an autism spectrum disorders resource center to coordinate resources for individuals with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and their families. In establishing and administering the center, the Health and Human Services Commission shall consult with the council and coordinate with appropriate state agencies, including each agency represented on the council.

(b) The Health and Human Services Commission shall design the center to:

(1) collect and distribute information and research regarding autism and other pervasive developmental disorders;

(2) conduct training and development activities for persons who may interact with an individual with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder in the course of their employment, including school, medical, or law enforcement personnel;

(3) coordinate with local entities that provide

1 services to an individual with autism or another pervasive
2 developmental disorder; and

3 (4) provide support for families affected by autism
4 and other pervasive developmental disorders.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.