

By: Truitt

H.B. No. 2196

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of a workgroup to study and make
3 recommendations on the integration of health and behavioral health
4 services.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and
7 Human Services Commission shall establish a workgroup to recommend
8 best practices in policy, training, and service delivery to promote
9 the integration of health and behavioral health services in this
10 state.

11 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
12 Services Commission shall appoint members to serve on the
13 workgroup. The workgroup must include:

14 (1) at least one representative of the Department of
15 State Health Services;

16 (2) at least one representative of the Department of
17 Aging and Disability Services;

18 (3) at least one representative of the Department of
19 Family and Protective Services;

20 (4) at least one representative of the Health and
21 Human Services Commission;

22 (5) a representative of the Texas Department of
23 Insurance;

24 (6) a representative of a state organization that

1 represents community mental health and mental retardation centers;

2 (7) a representative of a state organization that
3 represents federally qualified health centers;

4 (8) a representative of a state organization that
5 represents substance abuse providers;

6 (9) at least one representative of state associations
7 that represent medical and behavioral health professionals;

8 (10) a representative of a mental health philanthropy
9 that is an administrative unit of a public institution of higher
10 education in this state and that agrees to provide administrative
11 support to the workgroup; and

12 (11) additional members who are recognized experts in
13 integrated health care in the state, who have direct experience
14 with the provision of integrated health care, or who represent the
15 interests of consumers, communities, family members, advocates,
16 business leaders, medical and behavioral health providers, and
17 insurers.

18 (c) The workgroup shall study and make recommendations on
19 the integration of health and behavioral health services in this
20 state. The workgroup may request any information it needs from
21 state agencies, and the state agencies shall comply with the
22 request.

23 (d) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
24 Services Commission shall:

25 (1) not later than October 1, 2009, establish the
26 workgroup as required under Subsection (a) of this section; and

27 (2) not later than August 1, 2010, file with the

1 appropriate committees of the senate and the house of
2 representatives a report that describes the best practices for
3 health and behavioral health integration, barriers to implementing
4 the best practices in this state, and policy considerations for
5 improving integrated service delivery to the citizens of this
6 state.

7 (e) This section expires and the workgroup created under
8 this section is abolished on August 31, 2010.

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