

By: Farias

H.B. No. 2362

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an electronic diagnostic database for rural physicians.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1001, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. ELECTRONIC DIAGNOSTIC DATABASE FOR RURAL PHYSICIANS

Sec. 1001.101. CREATION OF DATABASE. (a) The department shall create an electronic database to assist physicians practicing in rural areas in diagnosing rare or unusual illnesses or conditions.

(b) The executive commissioner, by rule, shall designate for inclusion in the database diseases that are a threat to public health.

(c) The database must be searchable based on a patient's symptoms, test results, or medical history.

Sec. 1001.102. IMPLEMENTATION. The department shall place the system in rural clinics and hospitals across the state.

Sec. 1001.103. FUNDING. In implementing the database, the department may use any available revenue, including federal disaster preparedness grant funds, other federal funds, and legislative appropriations, and may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from a public or private source for the purposes of this subchapter.

SECTION 2. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and

1 Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section
2 1001.101, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later
3 than December 1, 2009.

4 (b) The Department of State Health Services shall create and
5 implement the electronic diagnostic database for rural physicians
6 required by Subchapter E, Chapter 1001, Health and Safety Code, as
7 added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2010.

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