

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 1723

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an informational manual for voluntary caregivers who
3 provide temporary care for children who are the subject of an
4 investigation by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 261.3071, Family Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 261.3071. INFORMATIONAL MANUALS. (a) In this
9 section:

10 (1) "Designated caregiver" and~~[r]~~ "relative
11 caregiver" [~~and "designated caregiver"~~] have the meanings assigned
12 those terms by Section 264.751.

13 (2) "Voluntary caregiver" means a person who
14 voluntarily agrees to provide temporary care for a child who is the
15 subject of an investigation by the department but who is not in the
16 conservatorship of the department.

17 (b) The department shall develop and publish informational
18 manuals that provide information for:

19 (1) a parent or other person having custody of a child
20 who is the subject of an investigation under this chapter; ~~[and]~~

21 (2) a person who is selected by the department to be
22 the child's relative or designated caregiver; and

23 (3) a voluntary caregiver.

24 (c) Information provided in the manuals must be in both

1 English and Spanish and must include, as appropriate:

2 (1) useful indexes of information such as telephone
3 numbers;

4 (2) the information required to be provided under
5 Section 261.307(a)(1);

6 (3) information describing the rights and duties of a
7 relative or designated caregiver; ~~and~~

8 (4) information regarding the relative and other
9 designated caregiver program under Subchapter I, Chapter 264; and

10 (5) information regarding the rights and duties of a
11 voluntary caregiver, including information on how to obtain any
12 documentation necessary to provide for a child's needs.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.