

By: Kolkhorst, Walle, et al.

H.B. No. 1983

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain childbirths occurring before the 39th week of gestation.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 32.0313 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.0313. INDUCED DELIVERIES OR CESAREAN SECTIONS BEFORE 39TH WEEK. (a) The department shall achieve cost savings with improved outcomes by adopting and implementing quality initiatives that are evidence-based, tested, and fully consistent with established standards of clinical care and that are designed to reduce the number of elective or nonmedically indicated induced deliveries or cesarean sections performed at a hospital on a medical assistance recipient before the 39th week of gestation.

(b) The department shall coordinate with physicians, hospitals, managed care organizations, and the department's billing contractor for the medical assistance program to develop a process for collecting information regarding the number of induced deliveries and cesarean sections described by Subsection (a) that occur during prescribed periods.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 241, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 241.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 241.007. INDUCED DELIVERIES OR CESAREAN SECTIONS BEFORE 39TH WEEK. A hospital that provides obstetrical services

1 shall collaborate with physicians providing services at the
2 hospital to develop quality initiatives to reduce the number of
3 elective or nonmedically indicated induced deliveries or cesarean
4 sections performed at the hospital on a woman before the 39th week
5 of gestation.

6 SECTION 3. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission
7 shall conduct a study to assess the effects of the quality
8 initiatives adopted under Section 32.0313, Human Resources Code, as
9 added by this Act, and Section 241.007, Health and Safety Code, as
10 added by this Act, on infant health and frequency of infant
11 admissions to neonatal intensive care units and hospital
12 readmissions for mothers and infants.

13 (b) Not later than December 1, 2012, the Health and Human
14 Services Commission shall submit a written report containing the
15 findings of the study conducted under this section together with
16 the commission's recommendations to the standing committees of the
17 senate and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction
18 over public health.

19 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act
20 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
21 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
22 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
23 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
24 waiver or authorization is granted.

25 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.