

1-1 By: Coleman, Miles (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 2312
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2011;
1-3 May 5, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 and Human Services; May 13, 2011, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 13, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the creation of a sickle cell disease program.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Health and Safety Code, is amended by
1-11 adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

1-12 SUBCHAPTER D. SICKLE CELL DISEASE PROGRAM

1-13 Sec. 33.051. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-14 (1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services
1-15 Commission.

1-16 (2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive
1-17 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

1-18 (3) "Health and human services agency" means a health
1-19 and human services agency listed by Section 531.001, Government
1-20 Code.

1-21 (4) "Program" means the sickle cell disease program
1-22 established under this subchapter.

1-23 (5) "Sickle cell disease" means any variant of sickle
1-24 cell disease, including sickle cell anemia and sickle cell
1-25 thalassemia.

1-26 Sec. 33.052. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The department shall:

1-27 (1) identify efforts related to the expansion and
1-28 coordination of education, treatment, and continuity of care
1-29 programs for individuals with sickle cell trait and sickle cell
1-30 disease;

1-31 (2) assist the advisory committee created under
1-32 Section 33.053; and

1-33 (3) provide the advisory committee created under
1-34 Section 33.053 with staff support necessary for the advisory
1-35 committee to fulfill its duties.

1-36 Sec. 33.053. ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The governor shall
1-37 appoint an advisory committee composed of 11 members, including a
1-38 program administrator. The members must be located in
1-39 geographically diverse areas of the state and must be interested in
1-40 and knowledgeable about sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease.
1-41 In making appointments to the advisory committee, the governor
1-42 shall consider appointing members who are:

1-43 (1) representatives of a community agency;

1-44 (2) state or local officials responsible for public
1-45 health, social services, or rehabilitation;

1-46 (3) representatives from educational institutions,
1-47 including schools and universities;

1-48 (4) physicians and other health care providers; and

1-49 (5) persons with, or relatives of persons with, sickle
1-50 cell trait or sickle cell disease.

1-51 (b) Members of the advisory committee serve staggered
1-52 three-year terms, with the terms of three or four members expiring
1-53 each year.

1-54 (c) The advisory committee shall meet at least twice a year.

1-55 (d) The advisory committee shall conduct a needs assessment
1-56 and advise the department and the program administrator regarding
1-57 the needs of individuals with sickle cell trait and sickle cell
1-58 disease and make recommendations, including recommendations
1-59 regarding legislative action, department rules, and program
1-60 administration.

1-61 (e) The program administrator shall report periodically to
1-62 the executive commissioner and annually to the governor regarding
1-63 the advisory committee's activities and findings.

1-64 (f) A member of the advisory committee is not entitled to

2-1 compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for travel or other
2-2 expenses incurred while conducting the business of the advisory
2-3 committee as provided by the General Appropriations Act.

2-4 (g) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
2-5 advisory committee.

2-6 Sec. 33.054. GRANTS. (a) The program administrator shall
2-7 investigate and identify grants and other funding mechanisms for
2-8 entities that:

2-9 (1) provide education regarding sickle cell trait and
2-10 sickle cell disease;

2-11 (2) improve the detection of sickle cell trait and
2-12 sickle cell disease and the treatment of sickle cell disease;

2-13 (3) coordinate delivery of services for people with
2-14 sickle cell disease;

2-15 (4) provide access to information regarding genetic
2-16 testing and counseling;

2-17 (5) bundle technical services related to the
2-18 prevention and treatment of sickle cell disease; and

2-19 (6) provide training for health professionals
2-20 regarding sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease.

2-21 (b) The program administrator shall award grants, if
2-22 possible, to eligible organizations in different regions of this
2-23 state.

2-24 (c) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and
2-25 donations of money from the federal government, local governments,
2-26 private corporations, and other persons to be used for the purpose
2-27 of awarding grants under the program.

2-28 Sec. 33.055. RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt
2-29 rules to implement this subchapter.

2-30 Sec. 33.056. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires September
2-31 1, 2017.

2-32 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-33 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-34 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-35 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-36 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

2-37

* * * * *