

By: Kolkhorst

H.B. No. 2636

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a commission to study neonatal intensive care units.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section:

(1) "Commission" means the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Commission established under this section.

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

(b) The executive commissioner shall create and appoint the members of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Commission to study and make recommendations regarding neonatal intensive care unit operating standards and reimbursement through the Medicaid program for services provided to an infant admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit.

(c) The commission shall:

(1) develop standards for operating a neonatal intensive care unit in this state;

(2) develop an accreditation process for a neonatal intensive care unit to receive reimbursement for services provided through the Medicaid program; and

(3) study and make recommendations regarding best practices and protocols to lower admissions to a neonatal intensive care unit.

(d) The executive commissioner may appoint members to the

1 commission necessary to carry out the duties of the commission.

2 (e) The executive commissioner shall designate a member of
3 the commission to serve as presiding officer. The members of the
4 commission shall elect any other necessary officers.

5 (f) The commission shall meet at the call of the executive
6 commissioner.

7 (g) A member of the commission serves at the will of the
8 executive commissioner.

9 (h) A member of the commission is not entitled to
10 reimbursement of expenses or to compensation.

11 (i) The commission may accept gifts and grants from any
12 source to be used to carry out a function of the commission.

13 (j) Not later than January 1, 2013, the commission shall
14 submit a report to the executive commissioner, the governor, the
15 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
16 and the chairs of the appropriate legislative committees on its
17 findings and recommendations required by this section.

18 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2011, the executive
19 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
20 appoint the members of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Commission
21 established under Section 1 of this Act.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.