

By: Patrick

H.B. No. 3471

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the establishment of an advisory committee to study the  
3 feasibility of requiring dental examinations for certain public  
4 school students.

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

6 SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The  
7 commissioner of state health services shall establish an advisory  
8 committee to study and provide recommendations to the governor, the  
9 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,  
10 and the legislature regarding the feasibility of requiring dental  
11 examinations for public school students who are entering the first  
12 grade.

13 (b) The advisory committee consists of the following eight  
14 members appointed by the commissioner of state health services:

15 (1) a representative of the Department of State Health  
16 Services;

17 (2) a representative of the Texas Education Agency;

18 (3) a member of the Texas Dental Association;

19 (4) a member of the Texas Academy of Pediatric  
20 Dentistry;

21 (5) a member of the Texas Dental Hygienists  
22 Association;

23 (6) a member of the Texas School Nurses Organization;

24 (7) an individual who:

1                   (A) holds a license issued under Subtitle D,  
2 Title 3, Occupations Code; and

3                   (B) is currently engaged in the practice of  
4 dentistry; and

5                   (8) a member of the Texas State Board of Dental  
6 Examiners.

7           (c) The commissioner of state health services shall ensure  
8 that the members of the advisory committee reflect the diverse  
9 geographic regions and population groups of this state.

10           (d) The representative of the Department of State Health  
11 Services shall serve as chair of the advisory committee.

12           (e) An advisory committee member is not entitled to  
13 reimbursement of expenses or to compensation.

14           (f) Not later than November 1, 2011, the commissioner of  
15 state health services shall appoint the members to the advisory  
16 committee as required by this section.

17           (g) Not later than December 1, 2011, the advisory committee  
18 shall hold an organizational meeting. The committee shall meet  
19 regularly as necessary.

20           (h) The advisory committee shall study:

21                   (1) the advantages and disadvantages of requiring a  
22 dental examination performed by a dentist for each student not  
23 earlier than the 180th day before or not later than the 30th day  
24 after the date the student enters the first grade; and

25                   (2) the costs, resources, and best practices  
26 associated with requiring the dental examination described by  
27 Subdivision (1).

1           (i) Not later than December 1, 2012, the advisory committee  
2 shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker  
3 of the house of representatives, and the legislature a report  
4 outlining the feasibility of requiring dental examinations for  
5 public school students who are entering the first grade.

6           SECTION 2. INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LAW. Chapter 2110,  
7 Government Code, does not apply to the advisory committee  
8 established under this Act.

9           SECTION 3. EXPIRATION. The advisory committee established  
10 under this Act is abolished and this Act expires on December 1,  
11 2013.

12           SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
13 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
14 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
15 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
16 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2011.