

1-1 By: Gallegos S.B. No. 955  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 25, 2011; March 8, 2011,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;  
1-4 April 21, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,  
1-5 Nays 0; April 21, 2011, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to the authority of counties to appoint, contract for, or  
1-9 employ physicians, dentists, or other health care providers for  
1-10 county jails.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 351, Local Government  
1-13 Code, is amended by adding Section 351.045 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 351.045. EMPLOYMENT OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.  
1-15 (a) The commissioners court of a county may appoint, contract for,  
1-16 or employ licensed physicians, dentists, or other health care  
1-17 providers to provide health care services to inmates in the custody  
1-18 of the sheriff.

1-19 (b) This section may not be construed as authorizing a  
1-20 commissioners court to supervise or control the practice of  
1-21 medicine as prohibited by Subtitle B, Title 3, Occupations Code, or  
1-22 to supervise or control the practice of dentistry as prohibited by  
1-23 Subtitle D, Title 3, Occupations Code.

1-24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-28 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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