

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 1045

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishing a task force to design cultural competence education requirements for certain health education programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.980 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.980. CULTURAL COMPETENCE TASK FORCE; REPORT. (a)

In this section, "institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) The commissioner of higher education shall appoint a task force on cultural competence composed of:

(1) health curricula specialists from two-year and four-year institutions of higher education;

(2) health professionals; and

(3) representatives of the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of State Health Services, and the Office for the Elimination of Health Disparities.

(c) The commissioner must consider geographic distribution and cultural and health professional diversity when appointing members to the task force.

(d) The task force shall study and make recommendations on specific cultural competence curricula for each health-related education field offered by an institution of higher education. The curricula must be designed to ensure that students are provided

1 knowledge of cultural awareness and competence in their respective
2 health service field, including:

3 (1) cross-cultural communication;

4 (2) culturally and linguistically appropriate health
5 policy considerations;

6 (3) exploration of health beliefs and explanatory
7 models;

8 (4) culturally competent health care delivery;

9 (5) health disparities, privilege, and equity factors
10 in the health system; and

11 (6) culturally and linguistically competent care
12 supported by policy, administration, and practice.

13 (e) To minimize duplication and expense for students and
14 institutions of higher education, the task force must develop and
15 design the curricula to be offered electronically and through
16 various distance education models and media.

17 (f) Not later than January 1, 2015, the task force shall
18 report its recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor,
19 speaker of the house of representatives, and chair of each standing
20 committee of the legislature with jurisdiction over higher
21 education or health and human services.

22 (g) This section expires September 1, 2015.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.