

By: Cortez

H.B. No. 1915

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the adoption of an ethics policy by the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 102, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 102.0511 to read as follows:

Sec. 102.0511. INSTITUTE ETHICS POLICY. (a) In addition to any other requirements provided by law, the oversight committee shall adopt and enforce an ethics policy that provides standards of conduct relating to the operations of the institute. The ethics policy must include provisions to address the following issues as applied to the operations of the institute and to oversight committee members, other committee members, and institute employees:

(1) general ethical standards;

(2) conflicts of interest, including the conflict of interest rules adopted under Sections 102.106 and 102.156;

(3) prohibited transactions and interests;

(4) the acceptance of gifts and entertainment;

(5) compliance with applicable professional standards;

(6) ethics training; and

(7) compliance with and enforcement of the ethics policy.

1        (b) The ethics policy must include provisions applicable  
2 to:

- 3            (1) members of the oversight committee;  
4            (2) the executive director;  
5            (3) employees of the institute;  
6            (4) members of scientific research and prevention  
7 programs committees and other advisory committees appointed under  
8 this chapter; and  
9            (5) any person who provides services to the institute  
10 relating to the operations of the institute.

11        (c) Not later than the 45th day before the date on which the  
12 oversight committee intends to adopt a proposed ethics policy or an  
13 amendment to or revision of an adopted ethics policy, the oversight  
14 committee shall submit a copy of the proposed policy, amendment, or  
15 revision to the Texas Ethics Commission and the state auditor for  
16 review and comments. The oversight committee shall consider any  
17 comments from the commission or state auditor before adopting the  
18 proposed policy.

19        (d) The oversight committee shall ensure that applicable  
20 provisions of the ethics policy are included in any contract under  
21 which a person provides services to the institute relating to the  
22 operations of the institute.

23        SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2014, the Cancer  
24 Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee  
25 shall adopt an ethics policy as required by Section 102.0511,  
26 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

27        SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.