

By: M. Gonzalez of El Paso

H.B. No. 2161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for benefits under the Texas women's health program operated by the Department of State Health Services.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 49 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 49. TEXAS WOMEN'S HEALTH PROGRAM

Sec. 49.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of State Health Services.

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

(3) "Texas women's health program" means the program operated by the department that is substantially similar to the demonstration project operated under former Section 32.0248, Human Resources Code, and that is intended to expand access to preventive health and family planning services for women in this state.

Sec. 49.002. AGE OF ELIGIBILITY. Subject to other eligibility criteria specified by rules adopted by the executive commissioner, a woman is eligible for benefits under the Texas women's health program if the woman is 15 years of age or older.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.