

By: Collier

H.B. No. 2620

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a task force on domestic violence.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle H, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 172 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 172. TASK FORCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Sec. 172.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "task force" means the task force on domestic violence.

Sec. 172.002. ESTABLISHMENT; PRESIDING OFFICER. (a) The task force is composed of 20 members appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as follows:

(1) four representatives of family violence centers, as defined by Section 51.002, Human Resources Code, from different geographic regions in this state, including both rural and urban areas;

(2) one representative of a statewide family violence advocacy organization;

(3) one representative of a statewide association of obstetricians and gynecologists;

(4) one representative of the Office of Title V and Family Health in the Department of State Health Services;

(5) one representative of a statewide sexual assault advocacy organization;

1 (6) one representative of the Health and Human
2 Services Commission Texas Home Visiting Program;

3 (7) one representative of a statewide association of
4 midwifery;

5 (8) one representative of a statewide family
6 physician's association;

7 (9) one representative of a statewide nursing
8 association;

9 (10) one representative of a statewide hospital
10 association;

11 (11) one representative of a statewide pediatric
12 medical association;

13 (12) one representative of a statewide medical
14 association;

15 (13) one representative of The University of Texas
16 School of Social Work Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual
17 Assault;

18 (14) one representative of The University of Texas
19 School of Law Domestic Violence Clinic;

20 (15) one representative of the governor's EMS and
21 Trauma Advisory Council;

22 (16) one representative of a Department of Family and
23 Protective Services prevention and early intervention program; and

24 (17) one representative of a statewide osteopathic
25 medical association.

26 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
27 Services Commission shall appoint a task force member to serve as

1 presiding officer of the task force.

2 Sec. 172.003. DUTIES OF TASK FORCE. The task force shall
3 meet at the call of the presiding officer to:

4 (1) examine the impact of domestic violence on
5 maternal and infant mortality, the health of mothers, and the
6 health and development of fetuses, infants, and children;

7 (2) identify the health care services available to
8 mothers and children compared to the need for the services and
9 opportunities for improving the services provided to these groups;

10 (3) identify methods to effectively include domestic
11 violence information and support in educational standards for
12 educators and protocols for health care providers; and

13 (4) investigate and make recommendations relating to
14 the coordination of health care services for young children and
15 pregnant and postpartum women who are victims of domestic violence,
16 including recommendations for improving early screening and
17 detection and public awareness efforts.

18 Sec. 172.004. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2015, the
19 task force shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant
20 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the
21 presiding officers of the standing committees of the legislature
22 having primary jurisdiction over health and human services, the
23 executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission,
24 and the commissioner of state health services containing:

25 (1) the findings and legislative, policy, and research
26 recommendations of the task force; and

27 (2) a description of the activities of the task force.

1 Sec. 172.005. EXPIRATION. The task force is abolished and
2 this chapter expires January 1, 2016.

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