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H.B. No. 77

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study of the Dallas Men Against Abuse program.

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

SECTION 1. STUDY REQUIRED. The Health and Human Services Commission shall conduct a study of the Dallas Men Against Abuse program implemented by the City of Dallas to address domestic violence to determine if any or all aspects of the program should be implemented at the state level or in additional local communities or school districts.

SECTION 2. CONTENTS OF STUDY. The study must:

- (1) examine each aspect of the program;
- (2) evaluate the effectiveness of each aspect of the program in reducing incidents of family violence, based on indicators such as the number of calls made to domestic violence hotlines, the number of victims of family violence who participate in prosecution of offenses involving family violence, and the number of aggravated assault charges filed in family violence cases;
- (3) assess the costs associated with the program and sources of funding;
- (4) determine the feasibility of implementing one or more aspects of the program at the state level or in additional local communities or school districts; and
- (5) make recommendations to the legislature regarding

1 implementation of any or all aspects of the program at the state
2 level or in additional local communities or school districts.

3 SECTION 3. AGENCY PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION. At the
4 request of the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department
5 of Family and Protective Services and each other health and human
6 services agency under the authority of the commission shall
7 participate in the study and provide appropriate assistance. The
8 Texas Education Agency shall cooperate with the Health and Human
9 Services Commission as necessary to enable the commission to assess
10 the feasibility of implementing any or all aspects of the program in
11 school districts.

12 SECTION 4. REPORT. Not later than December 1, 2016, the
13 Health and Human Services Commission shall submit a report to the
14 legislature regarding the results of the study and the commission's
15 recommendations regarding expanded implementation of the program.

16 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
17 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
18 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
19 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
20 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.