By: Fletcher   H.B. No. 1211

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2 relating to the provision of medical care to inmates confined by the

3 Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

5   SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "department" means the

6 Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

7   SECTION 2. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. (a) The department

8 shall, not later than October 1, 2015, issue a request for proposals

9 to provide medical care to inmates confined by the department. The

10 department shall determine, and specify in the request, the region

11 of the state for which the medical care is to be provided. The

12 inmates for whom care will be provided must be at least 20,000 in

13 number but not more than 30,000, and must include a representative

14 sample of the physical and mental health and custody

15 classifications of inmates.

16   (b) A response to a request for proposals must be due not

17 later than the 180th day after the date the request for proposals is

18 issued by the department. An entity that on the effective date of

19 this Act contracts with the department to provide health care

20 services under Chapter 501, Government Code, may not respond to a

21 request for proposals under this Act.

22   (c) A contract awarded in response to a request for

23 proposals must require that:

24   (1) the department not spend appropriated money to

1 make a payment under the contract without the prior approval of the

2 Legislative Budget Board; and

3 　　　　　(2)　the provision of medical care begin not later than

4 July 1, 2016.

5 　　　　SECTION 3.　EXPIRATION.　This Act expires January 1, 2019.

6 　　　　SECTION 4.　EFFECTIVE　DATE.　　This　Act　takes　effect

7 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members

8 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas

9 Constitution.　If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for

10 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.