

By: Davis of Harris, Zerwas, Burkett

H.B. No. 2131

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of centers of excellence to achieve healthy fetal outcomes in this state.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

FOR FETAL DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY

Sec. 32.071. DESIGNATION OF CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE FOR FETAL DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY. (a) The department, in consultation with the Perinatal Advisory Council established under Section 241.187, shall designate as centers of excellence for fetal diagnosis and therapy one or more health care entities in this state that provide comprehensive maternal, fetal, and neonatal health care for pregnant women with high-risk pregnancies complicated by one or more fetuses with anomalies, with genetic conditions, or with compromise caused by a pregnancy condition or by exposure.

(b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, in consultation with the department and the Perinatal Advisory Council, shall adopt the rules necessary for a health care entity in this state to be designated as a center of excellence for fetal diagnosis and therapy.

Sec. 32.072. SUBCOMMITTEE. (a) The department, in consultation with the Perinatal Advisory Council, shall appoint a

1 subcommittee of that advisory council to advise the advisory
2 council and the department on the development of rules related to
3 the designations made by the department under this subchapter. As
4 part of its duties under this subsection, the subcommittee
5 specifically shall advise the advisory council and the department
6 regarding the criteria necessary for a health care entity in this
7 state to receive a designation under this subchapter.

8 (b) The subcommittee must consist of individuals with
9 expertise in fetal diagnosis and therapy. A majority of the members
10 of the subcommittee must practice in those areas in a health
11 profession in this state. The subcommittee may include national and
12 international experts.

13 Sec. 32.073. PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CENTER
14 DESIGNATIONS. The rules adopted under Section 32.071(b) must
15 prioritize awarding a designation under this subchapter to a health
16 care entity that:

17 (1) offers fetal diagnosis and therapy through an
18 extensive multi-specialty clinical program that is affiliated and
19 collaborates extensively with a medical school in this state and an
20 associated hospital facility that provides advanced maternal and
21 neonatal care in accordance with the rules established under
22 Section 241.183(a)(1);

23 (2) demonstrates a significant commitment to research
24 in and advancing the field of fetal diagnosis and therapy;

25 (3) offers advanced training programs in fetal
26 diagnosis and therapy; and

27 (4) integrates an advanced fetal care program with a

1 program that provides appropriate long-term monitoring and
2 follow-up care for patients.

3 Sec. 32.074. QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGNATION. The rules
4 adopted under Section 32.071(b) must ensure that a designation
5 under this subchapter is based directly on a health care entity's
6 ability to:

7 (1) implement and maintain a cohesive
8 multidisciplinary structure for its health care team;

9 (2) monitor short-term and long-term patient
10 diagnostic and therapeutic outcomes; and

11 (3) provide to the department annual reports
12 containing aggregate data on short-term and long-term diagnostic
13 and therapeutic outcomes as requested or required by the department
14 and make those reports available to the public.

15 SECTION 2. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and
16 Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section
17 32.071, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later than
18 March 1, 2018.

19 (b) Not later than September 1, 2018, the Department of
20 State Health Services shall begin awarding designations required by
21 Subchapter D, Chapter 32, Health and Safety Code, as added by this
22 Act, to health care entities establishing eligibility under that
23 subchapter.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.