

By: Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 2131

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the designation of centers of excellence for fetal care  
3 and healthy outcomes in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 241, Health and Safety  
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 241.010 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 241.010. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE FOR FETAL CARE AND  
8 HEALTHY OUTCOMES. (a) The department shall designate as a center  
9 of excellence for fetal care and healthy outcomes one or more  
10 hospitals licensed under this chapter that provide comprehensive  
11 maternal, fetal, and neonatal health care for pregnant women with  
12 high-risk medical complications and for fetuses with congenital  
13 anomalies and genetic conditions.

14 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
15 Services Commission, in consultation with the department, shall  
16 adopt rules establishing the criteria necessary for a hospital in  
17 this state to be designated in this state as a center of excellence  
18 for fetal care and healthy outcomes.

19 (c) The rules adopted under Subsection (b) must prioritize  
20 awarding a designation under this section to a hospital that:

21 (1) offers fetal diagnosis, care, and healthy outcomes  
22 through an extensive multi-specialty clinical and research program  
23 that is affiliated and collaborates extensively with a public  
24 medical school in this state;

1           (2) demonstrates a significant commitment to research  
2 and advanced training in fetal diagnosis, care, and healthy  
3 outcomes;

4           (3) offers one or more accredited fellowships for  
5 advanced training in fetal diagnosis, care, and healthy outcomes;  
6 and

7           (4) integrates an advanced fetal care program with a  
8 program that provides long-term monitoring and follow-up care for  
9 congenital anomalies and genetic conditions.

10          (d) The rules adopted under Subsection (b) must ensure that  
11 a designation under this section is based directly on a hospital's  
12 ability to:

13           (1) achieve cost-effectiveness in health care  
14 treatment;

15           (2) implement and maintain a cohesive  
16 multidisciplinary structure for its health care team;

17           (3) exceed critical thresholds for physician and  
18 patient volumes and for physician experience;

19           (4) report and monitor short-term and long-term  
20 patient outcomes; and

21           (5) demonstrate an improvement in short-term and  
22 long-term patient outcomes as compared to other hospitals offering  
23 fetal care and healthy outcomes in this state.

24          SECTION 2. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and  
25 Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section  
26 241.010, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later  
27 than December 1, 2015.

1           (b) Not later than September 1, 2016, the Department of  
2 State Health Services shall begin awarding designations required by  
3 Section 241.010, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, to  
4 hospitals establishing eligibility under that section.

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