

By: Harless, Kuempel, Kacal, Geren, et al.

H.B. No. 2351

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to conflicts of interest and discrimination policies for an ethics or medical committee review of an advance directive.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 166, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 166.0465 to read as follows:

Sec. 166.0465. ETHICS OR MEDICAL COMMITTEE POLICIES ON CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DISCRIMINATION. Each health care facility that provides review by an ethics or medical committee under Section 166.046 shall adopt and implement:

(1) a policy to prevent financial and health care professional conflicts of interest that may arise during a review under that section; and

(2) a policy to prohibit consideration of a patient's permanent physical or mental disability during a review under that section unless the disability is relevant in determining whether a medical or surgical intervention is medically appropriate.

SECTION 2. (a) A health care facility shall adopt the policies required by Section 166.0465, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later than April 1, 2016.

(b) The policies adopted under Section 166.0465, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, apply to an ethics or medical committee review conducted on or after April 1, 2016.

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