

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.B. No. 3105

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 Relating to the establishment of a multi-stakeholder taskforce on
3 health literacy in Texas.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 1002, Texas Health and
6 Safety Code, is amended by adding Sec. 1002.001(13) and Sec.
7 1002.001 (14) to read as follows:

8 (13) "Health Literacy" means the degree to which
9 individuals have the capacity to obtain, communicate, process, and
10 understand basic health information and services to make
11 appropriate health decisions in the treatment, payment, or
12 coverage of care while successfully navigating complex health care
13 systems.

14 (14) "Task Force" means the Multi-Stakeholder
15 Taskforce on Health Literacy

16 SECTION 2. Chapter 1002, Texas Health and Safety Code, is
17 amended by adding Subchapter F. HEALTH LITERACY to read as follows:

18 Sec. 1002.203. MULTI-STAKEHOLDER TASKFORCE ON HEALTH
19 LITERACY. (a) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas Institute
20 of Health Care Quality & Efficiency shall establish the task force
21 to

22 (b) Establish a broad definition of health literacy, to
23 include a focus on the patient's need for transparent information
24 about health care cost, quality, and treatment options.

1 (c) Examine impact of low health literacy on health care
2 cost and quality outcomes.

3 (d) Develop policy recommendations and submit a brief to the
4 Institute for inclusion in the Institute's biennial report to the
5 Legislature and Health and Human Services Enterprise no later than
6 December 31, 2016 related to

7 (i) Promotion of plain language by health
8 care providers and simplified enrollment forms.

9 (ii) Development of health literacy
10 resources for health care providers and residents of Texas.

11 (iii) Development of programs to support
12 residents of this state in understanding health care information.

13 Section 1002.204 COMPOSITION OF THE HEALTH LITERACY
14 TASKFORCE (a) the following representatives shall be identified by
15 the Institute and invited to serve on the taskforce:

16 (b) The following members shall be invited to serve on the
17 taskforce:

18 (i) Three members of the Institute of the
19 board of directors to be selected by the chair of the board

20 (ii) The commissioner of insurance

21 (iii) The commissioner of the health
22 department

23 (iv) The state Medicaid director

24 (v) A representative of the aging and
25 disability services

26 (vi) A representative of the center for
27 disparities and disproportionality

1 (vii) A representative of the Employees
2 Retirement System of Texas

3 (viii) A representative of the Teachers
4 Retirement System of Texas

5 (ix) A representative from each state
6 agency or system of higher education that purchases or provides
7 health care services as determined by the board.

8 (x) Three employers domiciled in Texas

9 (xi) Three consumer representatives

10 (c) The chair of the board shall appoint a lead and
11 vice-lead to facilitate taskforce activities.

12 (d) The taskforce may consult with and invite participation
13 from other groups, organizations, and agencies as needed.

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