

By: Howard, Klick, Coleman

H.B. No. 280

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a grant program for reducing workplace violence against nurses.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 105, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 105.011 to read as follows:

Sec. 105.011. WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) To the extent funding is available, the nursing resource section established under Section 105.002 shall administer a grant program to fund innovative approaches for reducing verbal and physical violence against nurses in hospitals, freestanding emergency medical care facilities, nursing facilities, and home health agencies.

(b) The nursing resource section shall require a grant recipient to submit periodic reports describing the outcome of the activities funded through the grant, including any change in the severity and frequency of verbal and physical violence against nurses.

(c) The nursing advisory committee established by Section 104.0155 shall serve in an advisory capacity for the grant program.

(d) The department shall provide administrative assistance to the nursing resource section in administering the grant program under this section.

(e) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to

1 implement the grant program, including rules governing the
2 submission and approval of grant requests and establishing a
3 reporting procedure for grant recipients.

4 (f) The nursing resource section may use money transferred
5 to the department from the Texas Board of Nursing under Section
6 301.155, Occupations Code, to fund the grants authorized by this
7 section.

8 (g) At least annually, the nursing resource section shall
9 publish a report describing the grants awarded under this section,
10 including the amount of the grant, the purpose of the grant, and the
11 reported outcome of the approach adopted by the grant recipient.

12 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
13 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
14 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement
15 Section 105.011, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.