

By: Burkett, Bonnen of Galveston

H.B. No. 2848

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2848:

By: Cain

C.S.H.B. No. 2848

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to consultations with contracted physician networks and physician systems during certain investigations of child abuse and neglect.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 261, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 261.3017 to read as follows:

Sec. 261.3017. CONSULTATION WITH PHYSICIAN NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS REGARDING CERTAIN MEDICAL CONDITIONS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Network" means the Forensic Assessment Center Network.

(2) "System" means the entities that receive grants under the Texas Medical Child Abuse Resources and Education System (MEDCARES) authorized by Chapter 1001, Health and Safety Code.

(b) Any agreement between the department and the network or system to provide assistance in connection with abuse and neglect investigations conducted by the department must require the network and the system to have the ability to obtain consultations with physicians who specialize in identifying unique health conditions, including:

(1) rickets;

(2) Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome;

(3) osteogenesis imperfecta;

1 (4) vitamin D deficiency; and

2 (5) other similar metabolic bone diseases or
3 connective tissue disorders.

4 (c) In providing assessments to the department as provided
5 by Subsection (b), the network and the system must use a peer review
6 process to resolve cases where physicians in the network or system
7 disagree in the assessment of the causes of a child's injuries or in
8 the presence of a condition listed under Subsection (b).

9 (d) The department shall include the requirements of
10 Subsections (b) and (c) in an agreement with the network or system
11 only if the department receives an appropriation to enter an
12 agreement described by Subsection (b).

13 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
14 a contract entered into or renewed on or after the effective date of
15 this Act.

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