

By: Sheffield

H.B. No. 3711

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prevention of and response to communicable diseases in certain long-term care facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 81.003, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (4-a) and adding Subdivision (4-b) to read as follows:

(4-a) "Long-term care facility" means a facility licensed or regulated under Chapter 242, 247, or 252.

(4-b) "Peace officer" has the meaning assigned by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure. The term includes a sheriff or constable.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 81, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 81.014 and 81.015 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.014. LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE RESPONSE PLAN. Each long-term care facility shall develop a plan for preventing and responding to outbreaks of communicable diseases, including influenza. The plan must include:

(1) surveillance for key infectious agents, including multidrug-resistant organisms; and

(2) procedures for making rapid influenza diagnostic tests available to facility residents.

Sec. 81.015. ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP REGIONAL ADVISORY

1 COMMITTEES. (a) The department shall establish a regional
2 advisory committee in each public health region designated under
3 Section 121.007 to monitor antimicrobial stewardship in long-term
4 care facilities.

5 (b) A regional advisory committee established under this
6 section must include members who are physicians and members who are
7 public health officials.

8 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 161, Health and Safety
9 Code, is amended by adding Section 161.0053 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 161.0053. LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY IMMUNIZATION
11 INFORMATION. (a) In this section, "long-term care facility" means
12 a facility licensed or regulated under Chapter 242, 247, or 252.

13 (b) A long-term care facility shall provide educational
14 materials to facility employees regarding:

15 (1) immunizations, including the risks posed to
16 facility residents by employees who are not immunized; and

17 (2) the availability of specific immunizations.

18 (c) A long-term care facility shall provide, on request,
19 current influenza and pneumococcal vaccination data of the
20 facility's personnel to a public health official, facility
21 resident, and resident's family member.

22 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.