

By: Uresti

S.B. No. 687

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the collection and use of certain information relating
3 to child abuse and neglect and the provision of prevention and early
4 intervention services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 265, Family Code, is
7 amended by adding Sections 265.0041, 265.0043, and 265.0044 to read
8 as follows:

9 Sec. 265.0041. GEOGRAPHIC RISK MAPPING FOR PREVENTION AND
10 EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES. (a) The department shall use
11 existing risk terrain modeling systems, predictive analytic
12 systems, or geographic risk assessments or shall develop a system
13 or assessment under Subsection (c) to:

14 (1) identify geographic areas that have high risk
15 indicators of child maltreatment and child fatalities resulting
16 from abuse or neglect; and

17 (2) target the implementation and use of prevention
18 and early intervention services to those geographic areas.

19 (b) The department may not use data gathered under this
20 section to identify a specific family or individual.

21 (c) The Health and Human Services Commission, on behalf of
22 the department, may enter into agreements with institutions of
23 higher education to develop or adapt, in coordination with the
24 department, a risk terrain modeling system, a predictive analytic

1 system, or a geographic risk assessment to be used for purposes of
2 this section.

3 Sec. 265.0043. INTERAGENCY SHARING OF DATA FOR RISK TERRAIN
4 MODELING. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, state
5 agencies, including the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Juvenile
6 Justice Department, and the Department of Public Safety, shall
7 disclose information related to child abuse or neglect to the
8 department for the purpose of developing a risk terrain modeling
9 system under Section 265.0041.

10 Sec. 265.0044. ETHICAL GUIDELINES. (a) The executive
11 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, in
12 consultation with the prevention advisory committee, shall develop
13 guidelines regarding:

14 (1) the type of risk terrain modeling data to be
15 collected by the department and the acceptable uses of the data;

16 (2) the types of data that may be shared; and

17 (3) the methods for sharing the data and final
18 geographic risk maps.

19 (b) In developing the guidelines required under Subsection
20 (a), the executive commissioner shall consider whether the
21 department plans to make any data the department collects
22 available:

23 (1) for use in research that has been approved by an
24 institutional review board; or

25 (2) to researchers who are working in collaboration
26 with an institution of higher education.

27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.