

By: Howard

H.B. No. 316

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a public awareness campaign on firearm safety and suicide prevention.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 411.210 to read as follows:

Sec. 411.210. FIREARM SAFETY AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN. (a) The department shall develop and implement a public awareness campaign designed to encourage firearm safety and to improve public awareness on the topics of:

(1) prevention of firearm accidents involving children;

(2) suicide prevention; and

(3) the safe handling and storage of firearms.

(b) In implementing the campaign, the department may engage in online advocacy, issue public service announcements, and distribute materials that cover the topics described by Subsection (a). The department may publish its own materials or may distribute materials published by firearm safety advocacy organizations.

(c) The department may establish a process under which an applicant for an original or renewed license under this subchapter may make a voluntary donation to support the campaign.

(d) The department may pay the costs of the campaign and its administration from:

- 1 (1) gifts, grants, or donations, including donations
2 collected under Subsection (c), if applicable;
3 (2) matching funds; and
4 (3) other funds made available for that purpose,
5 including available department revenue.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.