

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 2059

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to required human trafficking prevention training for health care practitioners and certain employees of health care facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 4, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 226 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 226. TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

Sec. 226.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services Commission.

(2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

(3) "Health care facility" means a facility licensed under Subtitle B.

(4) "Health care practitioner" means an individual who holds a license, certificate, permit, or other authorization issued under Title 3, Occupations Code, to engage in a health care profession and who provides direct patient care.

Sec. 226.002. REQUIRED TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION. (a) A health care facility shall require each health care practitioner who is employed by the facility within the time prescribed by commission rule to successfully complete a training course approved by the commission on identifying and assisting

1 victims of human trafficking.

2 (b) The executive commissioner shall approve and make  
3 available to each health care facility a training course on human  
4 trafficking prevention that uses the standardized curriculum  
5 created by the human trafficking prevention task force under  
6 Section 402.035(d)(6), Government Code, as that section existed on  
7 January 1, 2019, or a substantially similar curriculum selected by  
8 the commission.

9 Sec. 226.003. DISCIPLINARY ACTION. The commission or other  
10 appropriate regulatory agency or governmental body that regulates a  
11 health care facility subject to this chapter may bring disciplinary  
12 action against a facility that violates this chapter or a rule  
13 adopted under this chapter.

14 SECTION 2. Subtitle A, Title 3, Occupations Code, is  
15 amended by adding Chapter 116 to read as follows:

16 CHAPTER 116. TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

17 Sec. 116.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

18 (1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services  
19 Commission.

20 (2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive  
21 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

22 (3) "Health care practitioner" means an individual who  
23 holds a license, certificate, permit, or other authorization issued  
24 under this title to engage in a health care profession.

25 Sec. 116.002. REQUIRED TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
26 PREVENTION. (a) A health care practitioner and each employee of  
27 the practitioner within the time prescribed by commission rule

1 shall successfully complete a training course approved by the  
2 commission on identifying and assisting victims of human  
3 trafficking.

4 (b) The executive commissioner shall approve and make  
5 available to each health care practitioner a training course on  
6 human trafficking prevention that uses the standardized curriculum  
7 created by the human trafficking prevention task force under  
8 Section 402.035(d)(6), Government Code, as that section existed on  
9 January 1, 2019, or a substantially similar curriculum selected by  
10 the commission.

11 Sec. 116.003. TRAINING REQUIRED FOR LICENSE RENEWAL. A  
12 health care practitioner shall successfully complete the training  
13 course described by Section 116.002 as a condition of renewal of a  
14 license issued to the health care practitioner under this title.

15 SECTION 3. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective  
16 date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
17 Services Commission shall approve and make available the required  
18 human trafficking prevention training course and adopt rules  
19 necessary to implement Chapter 226, Health and Safety Code, and  
20 Chapter 116, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

21 (b) Notwithstanding Section 226.002, Health and Safety  
22 Code, and Section 116.002, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, a  
23 health care facility or health care practitioner is not required to  
24 comply with those sections before September 1, 2020.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.