

By: Thierry

H.B. No. 2693

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a grant program to enhance community-based suicide prevention efforts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.09991 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.09991. GRANT PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY-BASED SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS. (a) To the extent money is available to the commission for that purpose, the commission shall establish a program to provide grants to quasi-governmental or nonprofit entities for the purpose of establishing and enhancing community-based suicide prevention efforts.

(b) Grant money awarded under this section may be used only to:

(1) support the implementation, administration, and coordination of the 2018 Texas State Plan for Suicide Prevention adopted by the Texas Suicide Prevention Council;

(2) support the operations of the quasi-governmental and nonprofit entities receiving grant money to expand local community-based suicide prevention efforts;

(3) support suicide prevention efforts in certain communities of practice, including veterans, primary and secondary education students, higher education students, persons who reside in rural areas, and persons working in health care;

1           (4) facilitate statewide partnerships and  
2 collaborations;

3           (5) expand the capacities of community-based suicide  
4 prevention programs to collect and analyze information to inform  
5 suicide prevention strategies;

6           (6) foster and promote emerging and promising best  
7 practices in suicide prevention;

8           (7) offer outreach and communications structures  
9 supporting the 2018 Texas State Plan for Suicide Prevention; or

10           (8) subcontract with another quasi-governmental or  
11 nonprofit entity acceptable to the commission to accomplish the  
12 purposes described by Subdivisions (1)-(7).

13           SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
14 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
15 Services Commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement  
16 Section 531.09991, Government Code, as added by this Act.

17           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.