

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 3786

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishing family drug courts in counties.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 122, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 122.005 and 122.0051 to read as follows:

Sec. 122.005. FAMILY DRUG COURT STUDY. (a) Not later than September 1, 2018, the commissioners court of each county that has not established a family drug court program shall study the effect the creation of a family drug court would have in the county. The sheriff and, as applicable, the county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney shall assist in conducting the study. Input from the following persons located in the county as applicable shall be requested: judges, CPS caseworkers and supervisors, attorney ad litem, guardian ad litem, treatment providers, child/family therapists, treatment providers, peer recovery coach providers, domestic violence advocates, housing partners, drug court coordinators, drug court services managers, drug court case managers. The study must analyze the effectiveness of:

(1) creating a court that specializes in cases in which a parent or person standing in parental relation suffers from drug addiction; and

(2) case management used by a family drug court program, including the involvement of Department of Family and

1 Protective Services caseworkers, court-appointed case managers,
2 and court-appointed special advocates, to rehabilitate a parent or
3 person standing in parental relation who has had a child removed
4 from the parent's or person's care by the department, or under
5 investigation to determine if a child should be removed from the
6 parent's or person's care by the department.

7 (b) This section expires January 1, 2021.

8 Sec. 122.0051. GRANT FUNDING FOR FAMILY DRUG COURTS. (a)
9 The county family drug court fund is a dedicated account in the
10 general revenue fund.

11 (b) The county family drug court fund consists of:

12 (1) appropriations of money to the fund by the
13 legislature; and

14 (2) gifts, grants, including grants from the federal
15 government, and other donations received for the fund.

16 (c) The Health and Human Service Commission may provide
17 counties who submit their study conducted under subsection 122.005
18 for consideration with funds to set up and administer a family drug
19 court in their

20 SECTION 2. The Health and Human Services Commission shall
21 adopt rules regarding the criteria for awarding grants described
22 under subsection 122.0051 by January 1, 2020.

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