

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 340

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a grant program to assist law enforcement agencies with the purchase of opioid antagonists.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 772.0078 to read as follows:

Sec. 772.0078. OPIOID ANTAGONIST GRANT PROGRAM. (a) In this section:

(1) "Criminal justice division" means the criminal justice division established under Section 772.006.

(2) "Opioid antagonist" and "opioid-related drug overdose" have the meanings assigned by Section 483.101, Health and Safety Code.

(b) The criminal justice division shall establish and administer a grant program to provide financial assistance to a law enforcement agency in this state that seeks to provide opioid antagonists to peace officers, evidence technicians, and related personnel who, in the course of performing their duties, are likely to come into contact with opioids or encounter persons suffering from an apparent opioid-related drug overdose.

(c) A law enforcement agency may apply for a grant under this section only if the agency first adopts a policy addressing the usage of an opioid antagonist for a person suffering from an apparent opioid-related drug overdose.

1 (d) In an application for a grant under this section, the
2 law enforcement agency shall provide information to the criminal
3 justice division about the frequency and nature of:

4 (1) interactions between peace officers and persons
5 suffering from an apparent opioid-related drug overdose;

6 (2) calls for assistance based on an apparent
7 opioid-related drug overdose; and

8 (3) any exposure of peace officers, evidence
9 technicians, or related personnel to opioids or suspected opioids
10 in the course of performing their duties and any reactions by those
11 persons to those substances.

12 (e) A law enforcement agency receiving a grant under this
13 section shall, as soon as practicable after receiving the grant,
14 provide to the criminal justice division proof of purchase of the
15 opioid antagonists.

16 (f) The criminal justice division may use any money
17 available for purposes of this section.

18 SECTION 2. The criminal justice division of the governor's
19 office is required to implement a provision of this Act only if the
20 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If
21 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
22 purpose, the criminal justice division of the governor's office
23 may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this Act using
24 other appropriations available for that purpose.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.