

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1119

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a border public health initiative by the Department of State Health Services.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 65 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 65. BORDER PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE

Sec. 65.0001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Border county" means a county adjacent to this state's international border with Mexico.

(2) "Promotora" or "community health worker" has the meaning assigned by Section 48.001.

Sec. 65.0002. BORDER PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE. (a) To the extent funding is available, the department shall develop an initiative to reduce the adverse health impacts of diabetes, hypertension, and obesity for adults and children in border counties. The initiative must promote:

(1) educational resources designed to prevent those conditions;

(2) screenings of persons at risk for those conditions; and

(3) referrals to and treatment by health care providers for those conditions.

(b) In developing the border public health initiative, the

1 department may consult and collaborate with:

- 2 (1) other health and human services agencies;
- 3 (2) other appropriate state or federal agencies;
- 4 (3) health science centers and medical schools; and
- 5 (4) public and private health care providers and
- 6 hospitals.

7 Sec. 65.0003. OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS. The department shall,
8 subject to available funding, conduct bilingual, culturally
9 appropriate outreach campaigns in consultation and collaboration
10 with appropriate individuals and entities that may include:

- 11 (1) promotoras and community health workers;
- 12 (2) academic centers located in border counties;
- 13 (3) nonprofit organizations;
- 14 (4) public schools;
- 15 (5) public and private health care providers and
- 16 hospitals;
- 17 (6) worksite wellness programs;
- 18 (7) local business and health care providers that
19 provide early detection of prediabetes, prehypertension, and
20 obesity; and
- 21 (8) other local entities, as the department determines
22 appropriate.

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