

By: Zaffirini
(Price)

S.B. No. 1636

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual report prepared by the Health Professions Council.

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

SECTION 1. Section 101.151, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 101.151. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) The council shall prepare an annual report that includes:

(1) a statistical compilation of enforcement actions taken by a regulatory agency listed in Section 101.002;

(2) recommendations for statutory changes to improve the regulation of the health care professions; ~~and~~

(3) strategies to expand the health care workforce in this state, including:

(A) methods for reducing the time required to process license applications for health care professions;

(B) methods for increasing the number of health care practitioners providing mental and behavioral health care services; and

(C) any statutory and legislative appropriation recommendations the council determines are appropriate for expanding the health care workforce in this state, including recommendations for expanding the health care workforce in medically underserved areas; and

1 (4) [~~(3)~~] other relevant information and
2 recommendations determined necessary by the council.

3 (b) The council shall send the report to the governor, the
4 lieutenant governor, [~~and~~] the speaker of the house of
5 representatives, the chairs of the standing committees of the
6 senate and the house of representatives having primary jurisdiction
7 over public health, and the chairs of the standing committees of the
8 senate and the house of representatives having primary jurisdiction
9 over state finance or appropriations not later than February 1 of
10 each year.

11 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding Section 101.151, Occupations
12 Code, as amended by this Act, the Health Professions Council
13 established under Chapter 101, Occupations Code:

14 (1) is not required to include in the annual report
15 required under Section 101.151 the strategies described by Section
16 101.151(a)(3), Occupations Code, as added by this Act, until
17 February 1, 2021; and

18 (2) shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant
19 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the chairs
20 of the standing committees of the senate and the house of
21 representatives having primary jurisdiction over public health,
22 and the chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the
23 house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over state
24 finance or appropriations a report that includes only the
25 strategies described by Section 101.151(a)(3) not later than June
26 1, 2020.

27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.