By:  Geren (Senate Sponsor - Powell) H.B. No. 2847

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2021; May 6, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government; May 13, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 13, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt       X

Menéndez          X

Eckhardt          X

Gutierrez         X

Hall              X

Nichols           X

Paxton            X

Springer          X

Zaffirini         X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the Tarrant County Hospital District or a nonprofit corporation formed by the district regarding certain technology or intellectual property owned by or licensed to the district or corporation.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter C, Chapter 281, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 281.0519 to read as follows:

Sec. 281.0519.  TARRANT COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT; AUTHORITY TO SELL OR LICENSE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. (a) The Tarrant County Hospital District or a nonprofit corporation formed by the district may:

(1)  sell or license technology or intellectual property that is owned by or licensed to the district or a nonprofit corporation formed by the district;

(2)  enter into a contract to provide services related to technology or intellectual property sold or licensed under Subdivision (1);

(3)  contract, collaborate, or enter into a joint venture or other agreement with a public or private entity to engage in an activity authorized under Subdivision (1) or (2); or

(4)  take any other action necessary to protect or benefit from the exclusivity of technology and intellectual property owned by or licensed to the district or a nonprofit corporation formed by the district, including applying for, acquiring, registering, securing, holding, protecting, and renewing under applicable provisions of state, federal, or international law:

(A)  a patent;

(B)  a copyright;

(C)  a trademark, service mark, collective mark, or certification mark; or

(D)  any other form of protection of intellectual property provided by law.

(b)  For purposes of Subsection (a)(3):

(1)  a public or private entity may be a for-profit or a nonprofit entity; and

(2)  a nonprofit corporation formed by the district may hold an ownership interest in a public or private entity described by Subsection (a)(3).

(c)  Information prepared or compiled by or for the Tarrant County Hospital District or a nonprofit corporation formed by the district relating to the development of technology or intellectual property to which this section applies is exempt from public disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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