87R11538 SCL-D

By:  Zwiener H.B. No. 3722

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to training materials for contact tracers and case investigators for public health disasters and other public health emergencies.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter D, Chapter 81, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 81.069 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.069.  CONTACT TRACER AND CASE INVESTIGATOR TRAINING MATERIALS. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Contact tracing" means identifying individuals who may have been exposed to an infected individual for the purpose of containing the spread of a communicable disease by notifying those individuals of the exposure and need for testing and self-quarantine.

(2)  "Infected individual" means an individual known or reasonably suspected to be infected with a communicable disease.

(b)  The department shall develop training materials for use by health care providers in conducting contact tracing and case investigation during a public health disaster or other public health emergency related to a communicable disease. The department shall post the training materials on the department's Internet website.

SECTION 2.  As soon as practicable, the Department of State Health Services shall develop the training materials required by Section 81.069, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3.  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.