By:  Hall S.B. No. 1489

(In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2021; March 24, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human Services; May 13, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 4; May 13, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Kolkhorst         X

Perry             X

Blanco                X

Buckingham        X

Campbell          X

Hall              X

Miles                 X

Powell                X

Seliger               X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1489 By:  Perry

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of information regarding COVID-19 prevention and treatment to individuals receiving a COVID-19 viral test.

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

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

SUBCHAPTER K. COVID-19 TESTING, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT

Sec. 81.451.  DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1)  "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus disease.

(2)  "Health care provider" means a person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to provide COVID-19 viral testing.

Sec. 81.452.  COVID-19 PREVENTION AND TREATMENT INFORMATION. The department shall post on the department's Internet website a printable brochure containing information about preventative measures and treatments for COVID-19. The brochure must include the following information:

(1)  methods for improving the functioning of an individual's immune system;

(2)  the importance of therapeutic prevention of COVID-19, including the use of nutraceuticals, the use of prescription medications, and the benefits and risks associated with receiving a vaccination;

(3)  the importance of seeking treatment for COVID-19 as soon as symptoms appear and a list of methods for treating COVID-19 that may be effective, including available medications; and

(4)  advanced home treatments for reducing COVID-19 symptoms and preventing hospitalization after an individual contracts COVID-19, including monoclonal antibody therapy.

Sec. 81.453.  REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. A health care provider that performs a COVID-19 viral test on an individual shall, at the time the provider performs the test, provide a printed or electronic copy of the brochure described by Section 81.452 to the individual receiving the test.

SECTION 2.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Department of State Health Services shall develop and post on the department's Internet website the brochure required by Section 81.452, 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.

\* \* \* \* \*