

By: Ortega

H.B. No. 3146

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study and report by the Health and Human Services
3 Commission on the continuity of home health services during the
4 COVID-19 pandemic.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this Act:

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

9 (2) "Home health service" has the meaning assigned by
10 Section [142.001](#), Health and Safety Code.

11 (3) "Home health service provider" means a person who
12 provides home health services for compensation.

13 (b) The Health and Human Services Commission shall conduct a
14 study to evaluate the impact of:

15 (1) COVID-19 on the continuity of home health services
16 provided to patients; and

17 (2) the provision of home health services on the
18 spread of COVID-19 among patients receiving the services.

19 (c) In conducting the study, the Health and Human Services
20 Commission shall:

21 (1) assess the impact of shortages in the number of
22 available home health service providers on the spread of COVID-19;

23 (2) assess the impact of the turnover rate for home
24 health service providers on the spread of COVID-19; and

1 (3) identify and assess whether any geographic regions
2 of this state have been disproportionately affected by the spread
3 of COVID-19 and the likelihood that the shortages or turnover rate
4 of home health service providers contributed to that spread.

5 (d) Not later than September 1, 2022, the Health and Human
6 Services Commission shall prepare and submit to the governor, the
7 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
8 and each standing committee of the senate and house of
9 representatives having jurisdiction over public health a written
10 report on the results of the study and any recommendations for
11 legislative or other action.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.