

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 3739

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to outreach campaigns conducted by the Department of State Health Services during certain public health disasters.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 81, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 81.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.025. OUTREACH CAMPAIGN DURING CERTAIN PUBLIC HEALTH DISASTERS. (a) In this section, "pandemic disease" means a communicable disease that spreads to a significant portion of the population of a country, multiple countries, or the world and that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities, illnesses, or permanent long-term disabilities.

(b) During a declared public health disaster for a pandemic disease, the department shall conduct an outreach campaign to disseminate information on:

(1) the availability of viral testing, treatment, and vaccines to individuals who are uninsured; and

(2) the accessibility of the testing, treatment, and vaccines to individuals regardless of their immigration status.

(c) The department shall make the information described by Subsection (b) available on the department's Internet website.

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