

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 4015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Rita Littlefield Chronic Kidney Disease Centralized Resource Center established within the Department of State Health Services.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle D, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 83A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 83A. RITA LITTLEFIELD CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE CENTRALIZED RESOURCE CENTER

Sec. 83A.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "resource center" means the Rita Littlefield Chronic Kidney Disease Centralized Resource Center established under this chapter.

Sec. 83A.002. ESTABLISHMENT OF RESOURCE CENTER. The Rita Littlefield Chronic Kidney Disease Centralized Resource Center is established within the department to serve as a centralized system through which persons may request and obtain information on chronic kidney disease and related illnesses, including each level of kidney disease and end stage renal disease.

Sec. 83A.003. ADMINISTRATION OF RESOURCE CENTER. (a) The department shall administer the resource center in accordance with this chapter.

(b) The department shall structure and operate the resource center in a manner that provides a comprehensive approach for readily accessing information on and resources for chronic kidney

1 disease and related illnesses and registering in a clinical
2 registry and trial network, including each level of kidney disease
3 and end stage renal disease. The approach must allow individuals to
4 request, obtain and register and to directly access aggregated
5 information on:

6 (1) chronic kidney disease awareness, prevention, and
7 professional education opportunities, including:

8 (A) awareness campaigns for chronic kidney
9 disease and related illnesses;

10 (B) information on accessing free screenings for
11 chronic kidney disease and related illnesses;

12 (C) professional resources and continuing
13 education opportunities for health care providers who treat
14 patients with chronic kidney disease or related illnesses;

15 (D) establish and maintain a kidney Health
16 Clinical Registry and Trial Network so that patients and extended
17 family members with end stage renal disease or chronic kidney
18 disease can register themselves to receive educational information
19 and opportunities to engage in clinical trials modified to their
20 chronic kidney disease stage; and

21 (E) information on chronic kidney disease
22 partners, including chronic kidney disease patient advocates,
23 dialysis professionals, health care providers, researchers,
24 manufacturers, and other appropriate persons;

25 (2) patient and family resources, including:

26 (A) educational resources containing general and
27 specific chronic kidney disease information;

1 (B) resources containing information on chronic
2 kidney disease prevention and early detection of chronic kidney
3 disease and related illnesses;

4 (C) nutritional and metabolism information for
5 individuals with chronic kidney disease and related illnesses;

6 (D) resources appropriately tailored to provide
7 information on chronic kidney disease and related illnesses to
8 individuals within groups that experience health disparities,
9 including racial minorities;

10 (E) directories for physicians who specialize in
11 kidney health; and

12 (F) programs through which an individual may
13 obtain a kidney donation or be placed on a kidney donation list; and

14 (3) resources on chronic kidney disease treatment
15 options and modalities, including:

16 (A) kidney donations and kidney transplantation
17 initiatives;

18 (B) deceased and living organ donation programs
19 and initiatives;

20 (C) organ recipient registries;

21 (D) treatment options for chronic kidney disease
22 and end stage renal disease;

23 (E) financial assistance for obtaining treatment
24 for chronic kidney disease or related illnesses; and

25 (F) options for receiving treatment for chronic
26 kidney disease or related illnesses through the use of telehealth
27 or telemedicine medical services, as defined by Section 111.001,

1 Occupations Code.

2 (c) The department shall ensure information provided by the
3 resource center is available in both English and Spanish.

4 Sec. 83A.004. INTERNET WEBSITE. In collaboration with the
5 Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force established under Chapter 83, the
6 department shall establish and the resource center shall maintain
7 an Internet website through which resource center employees and
8 members of the public may directly communicate and exchange
9 information on chronic kidney disease and related illnesses.

10 Sec. 83A.005. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. The department
11 may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source
12 to implement this chapter.

13 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, the Department of State Health Services shall
15 establish the Rita Littlefield Chronic Kidney Disease Centralized
16 Resource Center required by Chapter 83A, Health and Safety Code, as
17 added by this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.