

By: Meza

H.B. No. 4061

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a coordination of disability services pilot program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0243 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0243. COORDINATION OF DISABILITY SERVICES PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this section:

(1) "Pilot program" means the coordination of disability services pilot program established under this section.

(2) "Service provider" means a federal agency, state agency, political subdivision, nonprofit organization, or other person who provides specialty services for individuals with a disability.

(b) The commission shall establish a coordination of disability services pilot program to:

(1) review all state programs that provide services for individuals with a disability to determine any deficiencies in the programs;

(2) refer individuals with a disability to a service provider; and

(3) assist individuals with a disability in determining the services available and in applying for services from a service provider.

1 (c) The pilot program must allow an individual with a
2 disability to access the pilot program in person, by telephone, or
3 through the commission's Internet website.

4 (d) The commission shall give preference to qualified
5 individuals with a disability or with personal experience with a
6 disability in operating the pilot program.

7 (e) Not later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall
8 prepare and submit a written report to the legislature on:

9 (1) the results of the pilot program; and

10 (2) the pilot program's recommendations on
11 improvements to state programs for individuals with disabilities.

12 (f) This section and the pilot program expire on September
13 1, 2023.

14 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2022, the Health and
15 Human Services Commission shall establish the coordination of
16 disability services pilot program required by Section 531.0243,
17 Government Code, as added by this Act.

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