By:  González of El Paso, et al. H.B. No. 671

     (Senate Sponsor - Eckhardt)

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2023; May 8, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs; May 16, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 16, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Hancock         X

Parker          X

Blanco          X

Eckhardt        X

Gutierrez                 X

Hall                      X

Sparks          X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a veterans suicide prevention campaign.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 434.0241 to read as follows:

Sec. 434.0241.  VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN. (a) The Texas Veterans Commission shall conduct a suicide prevention campaign to provide veterans with information regarding suicide prevention.

(b)  In conducting the suicide prevention campaign, the commission shall establish a dedicated Internet website to provide veterans with information regarding suicide prevention.

(c)  The commission shall collaborate with, and may contract with, community-based, nonprofit, or private organizations to conduct the suicide prevention campaign under this section.

(d)  The commission may solicit and accept gifts and grants for purposes of conducting the suicide prevention campaign under this section.

SECTION 2.  Not later than March 1, 2024, the Texas Veterans Commission shall:

(1)  establish the veterans suicide prevention campaign as required under Section 434.0241, Government Code, as added by this Act; and

(2)  adopt any rules necessary to implement the campaign.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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