By:  Flores H.B. No. 4289

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a ketamine treatment grant program for veterans, active-duty military, and first responders.

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

SECTION 1.  Subtitle B, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 541 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 54. KETAMINE TREATMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 54.001.  KETAMINE TREATMENT GRANT PROGRAM. The commission shall establish a ketamine treatment grant program for ketamine infusion clinics that serve veterans, active-duty military, and first responders.

Sec. 542.002.  USE OF GRANT. A ketamine infusion clinic awarded a grant under this chapter may use grant money to:

(1)  provide otherwise uncompensated treatment to:

(i)  veterans;

(ii)  active-duty military; and

(iii)  first responders; and

(2)  pay for other activities, services, supplies, resources, and equipment the commission determines necessary for the facility to provide these services.

Sec. 54.003.  SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS. The commission with any necessary assistance of physicians or other providers may select eligible facilities to receive a grant under this chapter.

Sec. 54.004.  GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. The commission may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source for the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 541.005.  WORK GROUP. (a) The commission may establish a program work group to:

(1)  assist the commission with developing, implementing, or evaluating the program; and

(2)  prepare a report on the results and outcomes of the grants awarded under this chapter.

(b)  A member of a program work group established under this section is not entitled to compensation for serving on the program work group and may not be reimbursed for travel or other expenses incurred while conducting the business of the program work group.

(c)  A program work group established under this section is not subject to Chapter 2110.

Sec. 541.006.  REPORT TO GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE. Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the commission shall submit a report to the governor and members of the legislature regarding the activities of the program and grant recipients, including the results and outcomes of grants awarded under this chapter.

Sec. 541.007.  RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt rules necessary to implement this chapter.

Sec. 541.008.  SPECIFIC APPROPRIATION REQUIRED. The commission may not spend state funds to accomplish the purposes of this chapter and is not required to award a grant under this chapter unless money is appropriated for the purposes of this chapter.

SECTION 2.  Not later than December 1, 2023, the Health and Human Services Commission shall establish and implement the ketamine treatment grant program authorized by Chapter 54, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3.  Not later than December 1, 2024, the Health and Human Services Commission shall provide the initial report to the governor and the legislature as required by Section 54.006, Health & Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.