88R7636 MPF-D

By:  Miles S.B. No. 1354

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Rita Littlefield Chronic Kidney Disease Centralized Resource Center established within the Health and Human Services Commission.

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 commission to serve as a centralized system through which persons may:

(1)  request and obtain information on chronic kidney disease and related illnesses, including each clinical stage of kidney disease and end stage renal disease; and

(2)  register for inclusion in a kidney health clinical trials registry to receive information on clinical trials and clinical trial opportunities for chronic kidney disease and related illnesses.

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

(b)  The commission shall:

(1)  structure and operate the resource center in a manner that provides a comprehensive approach for readily accessing information on and resources for chronic kidney disease and related illnesses, including for each clinical stage of kidney disease and end stage renal disease; and

(2)  establish, and the resource center shall maintain, a kidney health clinical trials registry through which patients and family members of those patients may register to receive educational information on clinical trials and clinical trial opportunities based on the clinical stage of a patient's chronic kidney disease or end stage renal disease.

(c)  The comprehensive approach described by Subsection (b)(1) must allow individuals to request and obtain or to directly access aggregated information on:

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

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

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

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

(D)  for individuals who register for inclusion in the clinical trials registry established under Subsection (b)(2), information on clinical trials and clinical trial opportunities for chronic kidney disease and related illnesses; and

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

(2)  patient and family resources, including:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(A)  kidney donations and kidney transplantation initiatives;

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

(C)  organ recipient registries;

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

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

(F)  options for receiving treatment for chronic kidney disease or related illnesses through the use of telehealth service or telemedicine medical service, as those terms are defined by Section 111.001, Occupations Code.

(d)  The commission shall ensure information provided by the resource center is available in both English and Spanish.

Sec. 83A.004.  INTERNET WEBSITE. In collaboration with the Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force established under Chapter 83, the commission shall establish and the resource center shall maintain an Internet website through which:

(1)  resource center employees and members of the public may directly communicate and exchange information on chronic kidney disease and related illnesses; and

(2)  individuals may register in the clinical trials registry established under Section 83A.003(b)(2).

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

SECTION 2.  The Health and Human Services Commission is required to implement a provision of this Act only if the legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that purpose, the commission may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that purpose.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.