

1-1 By: Zaffirini, West S.B. No. 63
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2022; February 15, 2023,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs;
1-4 March 22, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,
1-5 Nays 0; March 22, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Hancock	X		
1-9	Parker	X		
1-10	Blanco	X		
1-11	Eckhardt	X		
1-12	Gutierrez	X		
1-13	Hall	X		
1-14	Sparks	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to an instruction guide for family members and caregivers
1-18 of veterans who have mental health disorders.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
1-21 amended by adding Section 531.0932 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 531.0932. INSTRUCTION GUIDE FOR FAMILY MEMBERS AND
1-23 CAREGIVERS OF VETERANS WHO HAVE MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS. (a) The
1-24 commission and the Texas Veterans Commission jointly shall produce
1-25 and make publicly available an instruction guide for family members
1-26 and caregivers of veterans who have mental health disorders.

1-27 (b) The instruction guide produced under this section must
1-28 include:

1-29 (1) general education about different mental health
1-30 disorders, including instruction intended to improve understanding
1-31 about the experience of persons suffering from those mental health
1-32 disorders;

1-33 (2) techniques for handling crisis situations and
1-34 administering mental health first aid to persons suffering from
1-35 mental health disorders;

1-36 (3) techniques for coping with the stress of living
1-37 with a person with a mental health disorder; and

1-38 (4) information about related services available for
1-39 family members and caregivers of veterans who have mental health
1-40 disorders that are provided by the commission, the Texas Veterans
1-41 Commission, other state agencies, community organizations, and
1-42 mental health services providers.

1-43 (c) The commission and the Texas Veterans Commission each
1-44 shall publish the guide produced under this section on the
1-45 respective agency's Internet website.

1-46 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-47 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-48 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-49 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-50 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

1-51 * * * * *