

1-1 By: Oliverson, et al. H.B. No. 2655
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa of Hidalgo)
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 19, 2025;
1-4 May 19, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &
1-5 Human Services; May 26, 2025, reported favorably by the following
1-6 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 26, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE				
1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Kolkhorst	X			
1-10	Perry	X			
1-11	Blanco	X			
1-12	Cook	X			
1-13	Hall	X			
1-14	Hancock	X			
1-15	Hughes			X	
1-16	Miles	X			
1-17	Sparks	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to operation by certain nonprofit organizations of certain
1-21 regional health care programs for employees of small employers.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 75.051, Health and Safety Code, is
1-24 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

1-25 (c) A community-based nonprofit organization may establish
1-26 or participate in a regional health care program under this
1-27 subchapter without the participation of the commissioners court of
1-28 a county if the program is a premium assistance program not offering
1-29 health care services or health care benefits.

1-30 SECTION 2. Section 75.052(a), Health and Safety Code, is
1-31 amended to read as follows:

1-32 (a) A regional health care program may be operated subject
1-33 to the direct governance of the commissioners courts of the
1-34 participating counties or, for a program operating under Section
1-35 75.051(c), a nonprofit organization. A local health care program
1-36 may be operated subject to the direct governance of the
1-37 commissioners court of the participating county. A regional or
1-38 local health care program may be operated by a joint council,
1-39 tax-exempt nonprofit entity, or other entity that:

1-40 (1) operates the program under a contract with the
1-41 commissioners court or courts, as applicable; ~~or~~

1-42 (2) is an entity in which the county or counties
1-43 participate or that is established or designated by the
1-44 commissioners court or courts, as applicable, to operate the
1-45 program; or

1-46 (3) for a program operating under Section 75.051(c),
1-47 is a participating nonprofit organization.

1-48 SECTION 3. Section 75.101, Health and Safety Code, is
1-49 amended to read as follows:

1-50 Sec. 75.101. ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED; PROGRAM
1-51 OBJECTIVES. In developing a regional or local health care program,
1-52 a governing body may provide health care services or benefits as
1-53 described by this subchapter or may develop another type of program
1-54 to accomplish the purposes of this chapter. A regional or local
1-55 health care program must be developed, to the extent practicable,
1-56 to:

1-57 (1) reduce the number of individuals without health
1-58 benefit plan coverage within the boundaries of the participating
1-59 county or counties or, for a program operating under Section
1-60 75.051(c), in a county in which a participating nonprofit
1-61 organization operates;

(2) address rising health care costs and reduce the cost of health care services or health benefit plan coverage for small employers and their employees within the boundaries of the participating county or counties or, for a program operating under Section 75.051(c), in a county in which a participating nonprofit organization operates;

(3) promote preventive care and reduce the incidence of preventable health conditions, such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes and low birth weight in infants;

(4) promote efficient and collaborative delivery of health care services;

(5) serve as a model for the innovative use of health information technology to promote efficient delivery of health care services, reduce health care costs, and improve the health of the community; and

(6) provide fair payment rates for health care providers.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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