

By: Garcia of Bexar

H.B. No. 2754

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a pilot program awarding grants for the provision of personalized treatment protocols for homeless veterans diagnosed with substance use disorders.

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 49 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 49. PILOT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS DIAGNOSED WITH
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Sec. 49.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Pilot program" means the pilot program established under this chapter.

(2) "Veteran" means an individual who has served in:

(A) an active or reserve component of the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States;
or

(B) the Texas National Guard, as defined by Section 431.001, Government Code.

Sec. 49.002. ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) The commission, using available resources and in cooperation with the Texas Veterans Commission, shall establish and operate a pilot program to award grants for the provision of personalized treatment protocols to at least 100 homeless veterans diagnosed with a substance use disorder.

1 (b) A grant recipient under the pilot program must be able
2 to provide to a homeless veteran participating in a personalized
3 treatment protocol:

4 (1) mental health and substance use disorder treatment
5 services;

6 (2) medical detoxification or medical withdrawal
7 services;

8 (3) supportive housing for the duration of treatment;

9 (4) partial hospitalization; and

10 (5) intensive outpatient treatment.

11 (c) A grant recipient under the pilot program shall
12 collaborate with a local government or nonprofit organization to
13 connect homeless veterans participating in a personalized
14 treatment protocol with transitional housing resources, workforce
15 training, and long-term mental health and substance use disorder
16 treatment services that will be available to the veteran after
17 successfully completing the personalized treatment protocol.

18 (d) The commission may award a grant under the pilot program
19 only in accordance with a contract between the commission and a
20 grant recipient. The contract must include provisions under which
21 the commission is granted sufficient control to ensure the public
22 purpose of providing treatment to homeless veterans is accomplished
23 and the state receives the return benefit.

24 (e) The commission may accept gifts, grants, and donations
25 to operate the pilot program.

26 Sec. 49.003. RULES. The executive commissioner shall adopt
27 rules to implement this chapter.

1 Sec. 49.004. REPORT. Not later than October 1, 2026, the
2 commission shall prepare and submit to the governor, the lieutenant
3 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
4 appropriate standing committees of the legislature a report that
5 includes:

6 (1) information on the number of homeless veterans who
7 were provided a personalized treatment protocol under the pilot
8 program; and

9 (2) an evaluation of the pilot program's
10 effectiveness.

11 Sec. 49.005. EXPIRATION. The pilot program concludes and
12 this chapter expires September 1, 2027.

13 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act:

15 (1) the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
16 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement
17 Chapter 49, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act; and

18 (2) the Health and Human Services Commission shall
19 establish and begin operating the pilot program under Chapter 49,
20 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

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