

CHAPTER 708

S.B. No. 286

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the HIV/AIDS Interagency Coordinating Council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 85, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 85.017 to read as follows:

Sec. 85.017. HIV/AIDS INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL. (a) The HIV/AIDS Interagency Coordinating Council is created to facilitate communication between state agencies concerning HIV/AIDS policies.

(b) The council consists of one representative from each of the following agencies appointed by the executive director or commissioner of each agency:

- (1) the department;*
- (2) the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation;*
- (3) the Texas Department of Human Services;*
- (4) the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse;*
- (5) the Texas Rehabilitation Commission;*
- (6) the Texas Youth Commission;*
- (7) the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;*
- (8) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission;*
- (9) the Texas Commission for the Blind;*
- (10) the Texas Commission for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired;*
- (11) the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services;*
- (12) the Central Education Agency;*
- (13) the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners;*
- (14) the Board of Nurse Examiners;*
- (15) the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners;*
- (16) the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners; and*
- (17) the Health and Human Services Commission.*

(c) All representatives appointed to the council must be directly involved in policy or program activities related to AIDS and HIV services for their respective agencies.

- (d) *The representative from the department serves as chairperson of the council.*
- (e) *The council shall meet at least once each quarter on meeting dates set by the council.*
- (f) *The council shall:*

(1) coordinate communication among the member agencies listed in Subsection (b) concerning each agency's programs in providing AIDS-related and HIV-related services;

(2) develop a plan that facilitates coordination of agency programs for prevention of AIDS and HIV infection and provision of services to individuals with AIDS or infected with HIV; and

(3) develop an annual report to be presented to the legislature and the governor containing recommendations and plans for coordinated activities that address issues and problems involved in AIDS and HIV infection prevention and delivery of health services to individuals with AIDS or infected with HIV.

(g) The council shall establish advisory committees composed of representatives from associations, consumer advocates, and regulatory agencies, boards, or commissions as needed to assist in carrying out its duties under this section.

(h) The department shall provide administrative support to the council.

SECTION 2. Section 85.003, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 85.003. DEPARTMENT AS LEAD AGENCY AND PRIMARY RESOURCE. The department, in the discharge of its duty to protect the public health, shall act as the lead agency for AIDS and HIV policy for Texas and is the primary resource for HIV education, prevention, risk reduction materials, policies, and information in this state.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993.

SECTION 4. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on March 30, 1993, by a viva-voce vote; passed the House on May 26, 1993, by a non-record vote.

Approved June 16, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.