

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE CHAPTER 107A. OFFICE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

TITLE 2. HEALTH

SUBTITLE E. HEALTH CARE COUNCILS AND RESOURCE CENTERS

CHAPTER 107A. OFFICE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES

Sec. 107A.001. OFFICE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES. The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall maintain an office for the elimination of health disparities in the Health and Human Services Commission to:

(1) assume a leadership role in working or contracting with state and federal agencies, universities, private interest groups, communities, foundations, and offices of minority health to develop health initiatives to decrease or eliminate health and health access disparities among racial, multicultural, disadvantaged, ethnic, and regional populations, including appropriate language services; and

(2) maximize use of existing resources without duplicating existing efforts.

Redesignated from Health and Safety Code, Subchapter G, Chapter 12 and amended by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 222, Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

Sec. 107A.002. POWERS OF OFFICE. The office may:

(1) provide a central information and referral source, including a clearinghouse for health disparities information, and serve as the primary state resource in coordinating, planning, and advocating access to health care services to eliminate health disparities in this state;

(2) coordinate conferences and other training opportunities to increase skills among state agencies and government staff in management and in the appreciation of cultural diversity;

(3) pursue and administer grant funds for innovative projects for communities, groups, and individuals;

(4) provide recommendations and training in improving

minority recruitment in state agencies;

(5) publicize information regarding health disparities and minority health issues through the use of the media;

(6) network with existing minority organizations, community-based health groups, and statewide health coalitions;

(7) solicit, receive, and spend grants, gifts, and donations from public and private sources; and

(8) contract with public and private entities in the performance of its responsibilities.

Redesignated from Health and Safety Code, Subchapter G, Chapter 12 and amended by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 222, Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2007.

Sec. 107A.003. FUNDING. The Health and Human Services Commission may distribute to the office unobligated and unexpended appropriations to be used to carry out its powers.

Redesignated from Health and Safety Code, Subchapter G, Chapter 12 and amended by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 222, Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2007.