

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 3374

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to information regarding Down syndrome.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter W to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER W. INFORMATION REGARDING DOWN SYNDROME

Sec. 161.651. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Down syndrome" means a chromosomal condition caused by the presence of an extra whole or partial copy of chromosome 21.

(2) "Health care provider" has the meaning assigned by Section 34.001 and includes a genetic counselor.

Sec. 161.652. INFORMATION REGARDING DOWN SYNDROME. (a) A health care provider that administers or causes to be administered a test for Down syndrome shall, upon receiving a test result that is positive for Down syndrome, provide the expectant or new parent with educational information made available by the department under subsection(c).

(b) Delivery of information prepared by the department in accordance with subsection (c) at the time genetic results or diagnostic conclusions are provided shall constitute compliance with this section.

(c) The department shall make the following information available on the department's publicly accessible Internet

1 website:

2 (1) information addressing physical, developmental,
3 educational, and psychosocial outcomes, life expectancy, clinical
4 course, and intellectual and functional development for
5 individuals with Down syndrome;

6 (2) information regarding available treatment options
7 for individuals with Down syndrome;

8 (3) contact information for national and local Down
9 syndrome education and support programs, including organizations
10 in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin, as well as other local
11 Down syndrome organizations in Texas;

12 (4) information hotlines and websites, resource
13 centers, and clearinghouses specific to Down syndrome; and

14 (4) any other information the department considers
15 necessary.

16 (d) The written information described by Subsection (c)
17 must be current, evidence-based information that has been reviewed
18 by medical experts and national Down syndrome organizations.

19 (e) The information described by Subsection (c) must be
20 published in English and Spanish.

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.