

By: Gutierrez

H.B. No. 1362

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the pilot program for reporting of
3 methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 81.0445, Health and Safety Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 81.0445. MRSA REPORTING PROCEDURES PILOT PROGRAM. (a)
8 The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services
9 Commission by rule shall develop and the department shall establish
10 a pilot program to research and implement procedures for reporting
11 cases of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
12 infection. A health authority shall not be required to participate
13 in the pilot program.

14 (b) A health authority that participates in the pilot
15 program shall administer the program locally and report to the
16 department as required by this section. [The department shall
17 select to administer the program a health authority that:

18 [(1) demonstrates an interest in hosting the program,
19 and

20 [(2) possesses adequate resources to administer the
21 program successfully.]

22 (c) The pilot program must:

23 (1) require all clinical laboratories, including
24 hospital laboratories and clinical reference laboratories, within

1 the area served by each ~~[the]~~ health authority participating in the
2 pilot program to report all positive cases of methicillin-resistant
3 Staphylococcus aureus infection to the applicable health authority
4 using automated and secure electronic data transmission ~~[pilot~~
5 ~~program administrator]~~;

6 (2) track the prevalence of methicillin-resistant
7 Staphylococcus aureus infections;

8 (3) evaluate ~~[study]~~ the cost and feasibility of
9 expanding the list of reportable diseases established under this
10 chapter to include methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
11 infections;

12 (4) develop a methodology for the electronic transfer
13 ~~[exchange]~~ of information regarding ~~[the occurrence of]~~
14 methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections within the
15 area served by each ~~[the]~~ health authority participating in the
16 pilot program;

17 (5) collect data and analyze findings regarding the
18 prevalence ~~[sources and possible prevention]~~ of
19 methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections;

20 (6) provide for the reporting to the public by the
21 department of information regarding methicillin-resistant
22 Staphylococcus aureus infections;

23 (7) compile and make available to the public a summary
24 report ~~[, by location, of the infections reported]~~; and

25 (8) make recommendations to the department regarding
26 Subdivisions (1) through (7).

27 (d) Not later than September 1, 2011 ~~[2009]~~, the department,

1 in consultation with each ~~[the]~~ health authority participating in
2 ~~[administering]~~ the pilot program, shall submit to the legislature
3 a report concerning the effectiveness of the pilot program ~~[in~~
4 ~~tracking and reducing the number of methicillin-resistant~~
5 ~~Staphylococcus aureus infections within the area served by the~~
6 ~~health authority]~~.

7 (e) This section expires, and the pilot program is
8 abolished, September 1, 2011 ~~[2009]~~.

9 SECTION 2. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
10 section, this Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of
11 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by
12 Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not
13 receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes
14 effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative
15 session.

16 (b) The change in law made by this Act to Section
17 81.0445(d), Health and Safety Code, takes effect September 1, 2009.