

1-1 By: Farias, Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Menéndez) H.B. No. 3729
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2015;
 1-3 May 5, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
 1-4 Justice; May 21, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 21, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to inclusion of family members of veterans court program
 1-18 participants in the treatment and services provided to the
 1-19 participants under the program.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 124.001(a), Government Code, is amended
 1-22 to read as follows:

1-23 (a) In this chapter, "veterans court program" means a
 1-24 program that has the following essential characteristics:

1-25 (1) the integration of services in the processing of
 1-26 cases in the judicial system;

1-27 (2) the use of a nonadversarial approach involving
 1-28 prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to
 1-29 protect the due process rights of program participants;

1-30 (3) early identification and prompt placement of
 1-31 eligible participants in the program;

1-32 (4) access to a continuum of alcohol, controlled
 1-33 substance, mental health, and other related treatment and
 1-34 rehabilitative services;

1-35 (5) careful monitoring of treatment and services
 1-36 provided to program participants;

1-37 (6) a coordinated strategy to govern program responses
 1-38 to participants' compliance;

1-39 (7) ongoing judicial interaction with program
 1-40 participants;

1-41 (8) monitoring and evaluation of program goals and
 1-42 effectiveness;

1-43 (9) continuing interdisciplinary education to promote
 1-44 effective program planning, implementation, and operations; ~~and~~

1-45 (10) development of partnerships with public agencies
 1-46 and community organizations, including the United States
 1-47 Department of Veterans Affairs; and

1-48 (11) inclusion of a participant's family members who
 1-49 agree to be involved in the treatment and services provided to the
 1-50 participant under the program.

1-51 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-52 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-53 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-54 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-55 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

1-56 * * * * *