By: Leach, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst) H.B. No. 4076 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2025; May 19, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Health & 1-1 1-2 1-3 Human Services; May 21, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1; May 21, 2025, sent to printer.) 1-4

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Kolkhorst	X			
1-9	Perry	X			
1-10	Blanco	X			
1-11	Cook		Χ		
1-12	Hall	X			
1-13	Hancock	X			
1-14	Hughes			X	
1-15	Miles	X			
1-16	Sparks	X			

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to prohibiting organ transplant recipient discrimination on the basis of vaccination status.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter S, Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 161.474 to read as follows:

Sec. 161.474. DISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF VACCINATION STATUS PROHIBITED. (a) A health care provider may not, solely on the basis of an individual's vaccination status:

determine an individual is ineligible to receive (1)

an organ transplant;

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(2) deny medical or other services related to an organ transplant, including evaluation, surgery, counseling, and postoperative treatment;

(3) refuse to refer the individual to a transplant center or other related specialist for evaluation or receipt of an organ transplant; or

(4) refuse to place the individual on transplant waiting list or place the individual at a position lower in priority on the list than the position the individual would have been placed if not for the individual's vaccination status.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a health care provider consider an individual's vaccination status when making a treatment recommendation or decision solely to the extent that a physician, following an individualized evaluation of the potential transplant recipient, determines the vaccination status is medically significant to the organ transplant. This section does not require a referral or recommendation for, or the performance of, a medically inappropriate organ transplant.

(c) This section applies transplant process. to each stage of the organ

(d) A person may not take an adverse action or impose a penalty of any kind against a health care provider based solely on the fact that the health care provider complied with Subsection (<u>a).</u>

A physician who in good faith makes a determination that an individual's vaccination status is medically significant to the organ transplant, as described by Subsection (b), does not violate this section.

(f)

A health care provider may:
(1) develop alternative risk mitigation strategies including antibody testing, prophylactic treatments, and antiviral therapy, in lieu of requiring a vaccination; and

(2) inform patients of the risks and benefits of

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2-3 2-4 2**-**5 2**-**6 receiving a vaccination.

SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2026, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt any rules necessary to implement Section 161.474, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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