

AN ACT

relating to the training and regulation of promotoras and community health workers.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 46, Health and Safety Code, as added by Section 2.01, Chapter 857, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER ~~48~~ [46]. TRAINING AND REGULATION
OF PROMOTORAS AND COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

Sec. ~~48.001~~ [46.001]. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this chapter:

(1) "Compensation" includes receiving payment or receiving reimbursement for expenses.

(2) "Promotora" or "community health worker"[- "promotora"] means a person who, with or without compensation, provides a [~~bilingual~~] liaison between health care providers and patients through activities that may include activities such as assisting in case conferences, providing patient education, making referrals to health and social services, conducting needs assessments, distributing surveys to identify barriers to health care delivery, making home visits, and providing bilingual language services.

Sec. ~~48.002~~ [46.002]. PROMOTORA AND COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM. (a) The department shall establish and operate a program designed to train and educate persons who act as promotoras or community health workers. In establishing the training program, the department, to the extent possible, shall consider the report and any findings of and implement any applicable recommendations of the

Promotora Program Development Committee [use as a resource the uniform curriculum for training and educating promotoras developed by the Health Education Training Centers Alliance of Texas].

(b) Participation in a training and education program established under this section is voluntary for a promotora or community health worker who provides services without receiving any compensation and mandatory for a promotora or community health worker who provides services for compensation. The board may adopt rules to exempt a promotora or community health worker from mandatory training who has served for three or more years or who has 1,000 or more hours of experience.

Sec. 48.003 [~~46.003~~]. CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR PROMOTORAS AND COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS. (a) The department shall establish and operate a certification program for persons who act as promotoras or community health workers. In establishing the program, the board shall adopt rules that provide minimum standards and guidelines, including participation in the training and education program under Section 48.002 [~~46.002~~], for issuance of a certificate to a person under this section. In adopting the minimum standards and guidelines, the board shall consider the report and any findings of and adopt any applicable recommendations of the Promotora Program Development Committee.

(b) Receipt of a certificate issued under this section may not be a requirement for a person to act as a promotora or community health worker without receiving any compensation and is a requirement for a person to act as a promotora or community health worker for compensation.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2001.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1051 passed the Senate on April 11, 2001, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0, one present not voting; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 26, 2001, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1051 passed the House, with amendment, on May 23, 2001, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor