

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R1837 PEP-D

S.B. 347
By: Brown, J. E. "Buster"
Criminal Justice
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) purchases pharmaceutical drugs for the Texas prison system through a drug consortium, thus reducing the cost. By participating in the federal "340B" drug pricing program, pharmaceutical drugs can be purchased for an even lower cost if UTMB, the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee (CMHCC), the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center make the necessary administrative and contract modifications in order to qualify for the program. As proposed, S.B. 347 requires TDCJ to modify its contracts with CMHCC so that the UTMB can purchase prescription drugs for the prison population at federal "340B" prices.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 501.147(a) and (c), Government Code, by requiring a contract entered into on behalf of the Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) by the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee (committee) to include provisions to ensure that The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) is eligible for and makes reasonable efforts to participate in the purchase of prescription drugs under Section 340B, Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 256b). Requires the committee to integrate the managed health care provider network with the public medical schools of this state and the component and affiliated hospitals of those medical schools. Requires the contract to authorize UTMB to contract directly with the Texas Tech University Health Science Center (TTUHSC) for the provision of health care services. Requires TTUHSC to cooperate with UTMB in its efforts to participate in the purchase of prescription drugs under Section 340B, Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 256b).

SECTION 2. Requires the committee and TDCJ to amend any existing contract for the implementation of the managed health care plan established under Section 501.146, Government Code, as necessary to meet the requirements imposed on the contract under Sections 501.147(a) and (c), Government Code, as amended by this Act, not later than January 1, 2002.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001.