1-1 By: Taylor of Galveston, Hall S.B. No. 684 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 23, 2015; February 24, 2015, 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Business and Commerce; 1-4 April 21, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7, 1-5 Nays 0; April 21, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7       Yea       Nay       Absent       PNV         1-8       Eltife       X       1         1-9       Creighton       X       1         1-10       Ellis       X       1         1-11       Huffines       X       1         1-12       Schwertner       X       1         1-13       Seliger       X       1         1-14       Taylor of Galveston       X       1         1-15       Watson       X       1         1-16       Whitmire       X       1         1-17       A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT       1         1-18       relating to the designation of certain optometrists, therapeutic optometrists, and ophthalmologists as preferred providers.         1-21       BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTION 1. Section 1301.051(e), Insurance Code, is amended         1-23       to read as follows:       1         1-24       (e) An insurer may not withhold a designation to: (1) a podiatrist described by Section 1301.0521; or (2) an optometrist, therapeutic optometrist, or         1-25       (1) a podiatrist described by Section 1301.0522.         1-28       SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 1301, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1301.0522 to read as follows:         1-30
1-8       Eltife       X         1-9       Creighton       X         1-10       Ellis       X         1-11       Huffines       X         1-12       Schwertner       X         1-13       Seliger       X         1-14       Taylor of Galveston       X         1-15       Watson       X         1-16       Whitmire       X         1-17       A BILL TO BE ENTITLED         1-18       AN ACT         1-19       relating to the designation of certain optometrists, therapeutic         1-20       optometrists, and ophthalmologists as preferred providers.         1-21       BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:         1-22       SECTION 1. Section 1301.051(e), Insurance Code, is amended         1-23       to read as follows:         1-24       (e) An insurer may not withhold a designation to:         1-25       (1) a podiatrist described by Section 1301.0522; or         1-26       (2) an optometrist, therapeutic optometrist, or         1-27       opthhalmologist described by Section 1301.0522.         1-28       SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 1301, Insurance Code, is         1-29       amended by adding Section 1301.051, an insurer may
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1-43 (b) An optometrist, therapeutic optometrist, or
1-44 ophthalmologist designated as a preferred provider under this
1-45 section must comply with the terms of the preferred provider
1-46 contract used by the insurer or the insurer's network provider.
1-47 SECTION 3. Section 1301.0522, Insurance Code, as added by
1-48 this Act, applies only to a contract between a preferred provider
1-49 and an insurer that is entered into or renewed on or after September
1-50 1, 2015. A contract between a preferred provider and an insurer
1-51 that is entered into or renewed before September 1, 2015, is
1-52 governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective 1-53 date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that
1-55 date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that 1-54 purpose.
1-55 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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