

1-1 By: Hancock S.B. No. 2544
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2025; April 3, 2025, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human Services;
 1-4 April 28, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 28, 2025,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2544 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to eligibility for mediation of certain out-of-network
 1-22 health benefit claims.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 1467.054(a), Insurance Code, is amended
 1-25 to read as follows:

1-26 (a) Not later than the 90th day after the date an
 1-27 out-of-network provider receives an initial payment for a health
 1-28 care or medical service or supply, an [An] out-of-network provider
 1-29 or a health benefit plan issuer or administrator may request
 1-30 mandatory mediation under this subchapter.

1-31 SECTION 2. (a) The changes in law made by this Act apply
 1-32 only to a dispute regarding charges for a health care or medical
 1-33 service or supply provided on or after the effective date of this
 1-34 Act.

1-35 (b) A dispute regarding charges for a health care or medical
 1-36 service or supply provided before the effective date of this Act is
 1-37 governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
 1-38 of this Act if mediation of the dispute under Subchapter B, Chapter
 1-39 1467, Insurance Code, is requested on or before the 120th day after
 1-40 the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect
 1-41 for that purpose.

1-42 (c) If mediation of a dispute under Subchapter B, Chapter
 1-43 1467, Insurance Code, regarding charges for a health care or
 1-44 medical service or supply provided before the effective date of
 1-45 this Act is not requested on or before the 120th day after the
 1-46 effective date of this Act, the dispute is not eligible for
 1-47 mediation under that subchapter.

1-48 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-49 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-50 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-51 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-52 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

1-53 * * * * *