

By: Huffman

S. B. No. 1257

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to coverage for certain services related to maternal
3 depression under the Medicaid and child health plan programs.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 62, Health and Safety
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 62.1511 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 62.1511. COVERAGE FOR MATERNAL DEPRESSION SCREENING.

8 (a) In this section, "maternal depression" means depression of any
9 severity with postpartum onset.

10 (b) The covered services under the child health plan must
11 include a maternal depression screening for an enrollee's mother,
12 regardless of whether the mother is also an enrollee, that is
13 performed during a covered well-child or other office visit for the
14 enrollee that occurs before the enrollee's first birthday.

15 (c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary
16 to implement this section. The rules must be based on:

21 (d) The commission shall seek, accept, and spend any federal
22 funds that are available for the purposes of this section,
23 including priority funding authorized by Section 317L-1 of the
24 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), as added

1 by the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. No. 114-255).

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,
3 is amended by adding Section 32.0561 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 32.0561. MATERNAL DEPRESSION SCREENING. (a) In this
5 section, "maternal depression" means depression of any severity
6 with postpartum onset.

7 (b) The commission shall provide medical assistance
8 reimbursement for a maternal depression screening for a recipient's
9 mother, regardless of whether the mother is also a recipient, that
10 is performed during a covered examination for the recipient under
11 the Texas Health Steps Comprehensive Care Program that occurs
12 before the recipient's first birthday.

13 (c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary
14 to implement this section. The rules must be based on:

15 (1) clinical and empirical evidence concerning
16 maternal depression; and
17 (2) information provided by relevant physicians and
18 behavioral health organizations.

19 (d) The commission shall seek, accept, and spend any federal
20 funds that are available for the purposes of this section,
21 including priority funding authorized by Section 317L-1 of the
22 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), as added
23 by the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. No. 114-255).

24 SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act
25 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
26 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
27 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or

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1 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
2 waiver or authorization is granted.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.