

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 605

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disclosure of negotiated rates requested by members of the legislature from certain health care vendors that contract with this state.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter [Z](#), Chapter [2252](#), Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2252.909 to read as follows:

Sec. 2252.909. LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATED RATES UNDER CERTAIN HEALTH BENEFIT CONTRACTS. (a) In this section, "health care vendor" means:

(1) a health benefit plan issuer that contracts with this state for the administration of health benefits; and

(2) a managed care organization that contracts with the Health and Human Services Commission to administer health benefits for Medicaid recipients through a managed care plan.

(b) This section applies only to a health care vendor that contracts with this state, including with an agency of this state, to administer health benefits under:

(1) a basic coverage plan under Chapter [1551](#), Insurance Code;

(2) a basic plan under Chapter [1575](#), Insurance Code;

(3) a primary care coverage plan under Chapter [1579](#), Insurance Code;

(4) a plan providing basic coverage under Chapter

1 1601, Insurance Code; or

2 (5) the state Medicaid program, including the Medicaid  
3 managed care program operated under Chapter 533.

4 (c) A member of the legislature may request from a health  
5 care vendor information regarding any negotiated rate included in a  
6 contract between the vendor and this state for the administration  
7 of health benefits.

8 (d) On receipt of a written request for information under  
9 Subsection (c), the health care vendor shall provide the requested  
10 information to the member of the legislature who submitted the  
11 request.

12 (e) A health care vendor, by providing information under  
13 this section that is confidential or otherwise excepted from  
14 required disclosure under law, does not waive or affect the  
15 confidentiality of the information for purposes of state or federal  
16 law or waive the right to assert exceptions to required disclosure  
17 of the information in the future.

18 (f) A member of the legislature or legislative staff who  
19 receives information from a health care vendor under this section  
20 may not disclose that information to any person who does not have a  
21 right to access that information under this section.

22 SECTION 2. Section 2252.909, Government Code, as added by  
23 this Act, applies only to a health care vendor that enters into or  
24 renews a contract with the State of Texas on or after the effective  
25 date of this Act.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.