

By: Oliverson, Lambert, Plesa

H.B. No. 1142

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1142:

By: Plesa

C.S.H.B. No. 1142

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage for mental health conditions and substance use disorders under certain governmental health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1355.002(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, but notwithstanding [~~Notwithstanding any provision in Chapter 1575 or 1579 or~~] any other law, this subchapter [~~Section 1355.015~~] applies to:

- (1) a basic coverage plan under Chapter 1551;
- (2) a basic plan under Chapter 1575; [and]
- (3) [~~(2)~~] a primary care coverage plan under Chapter 1579; and
- (4) a plan providing basic coverage under Chapter 1601.

SECTION 2. Section 1355.003(a), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This subchapter does not apply to coverage under:

- (1) a blanket accident and health insurance policy, as described by Chapter 1251;
- (2) a short-term travel policy;
- (3) an accident-only policy;
- (4) a limited or specified-disease policy that does

not provide benefits for mental health care or similar services;

(5) ~~[except as provided by Subsection (b), a plan offered under Chapter 1551 or Chapter 1601,~~

~~(6)]~~ a plan offered in accordance with Section 1355.151; or

(6) ~~(7)]~~ a Medicare supplement benefit plan, as defined by Section 1652.002.

SECTION 3. Section 1355.015(e), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Notwithstanding any other law, this section does not apply to:

(1) a standard health benefit plan provided under Chapter 1507;

(2) a basic coverage plan under Chapter 1551; or

(3) a plan providing basic coverage under Chapter 1601.

SECTION 4. Section 1355.252, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, this subchapter applies to:

(1) a basic coverage plan under Chapter 1551;

(2) a basic plan under Chapter 1575;

(3) a primary care coverage plan under Chapter 1579;

and

(4) a plan providing basic coverage under Chapter 1601.

SECTION 5. Section 1355.255, Insurance Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2       Sec. 1355.255. COMPLIANCE. (a) Except as provided by  
3 Subsection (b), the [The] commissioner shall enforce compliance  
4 with Section 1355.254 by evaluating the benefits and coverage  
5 offered by a health benefit plan for quantitative and  
6 nonquantitative treatment limitations in the following categories:

- 7               (1) in-network and out-of-network inpatient care;  
8               (2) in-network and out-of-network outpatient care;  
9               (3) emergency care; and  
10              (4) prescription drugs.

11       (b) With respect to a plan described by Section 1355.252(d),  
12 the applicable trustee, board of trustees, or system shall enforce  
13 compliance with Section 1355.254 by evaluating the benefits and  
14 coverage offered by a health benefit plan for quantitative and  
15 nonquantitative treatment limitations in the following categories:

- 16               (1) in-network and out-of-network inpatient care;  
17               (2) in-network and out-of-network outpatient care;  
18               (3) emergency care; and  
19               (4) prescription drugs.

20       SECTION 6. Section 1551.205, Insurance Code, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22       Sec. 1551.205. LIMITATIONS. The board of trustees may not  
23 contract for or provide a coverage plan that:

- 24               (1) excludes or limits coverage or services for  
25 acquired immune deficiency syndrome, as defined by the Centers for  
26 Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Public Health  
27 Service, or human immunodeficiency virus infection; or

1           (2) ~~[provides coverage for serious mental illness that~~  
2 ~~is less extensive than the coverage provided for any physical~~  
3 ~~illness, or~~

4           ~~[(3)]~~ may provide coverage for prescription drugs to  
5 assist in stopping smoking at a lower benefit level than is provided  
6 for other prescription drugs.

7           SECTION 7. Section [1355.003\(b\)](#), Insurance Code, is  
8 repealed.

9           SECTION 8. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
10 a plan year that commences on or after January 1, 2026. A plan year  
11 that commenced before January 1, 2026, is governed by the law as it  
12 existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that  
13 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

14          SECTION 9. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.