

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 179

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a public outreach and education campaign for  
3 mixed-status families regarding eligibility for Medicaid and the  
4 child health plan program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 545, Government Code, as  
7 effective April 1, 2025, is amended by adding Section 545.0059 to  
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 545.0059. PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN FOR MIXED-STATUS  
10 FAMILIES ON MEDICAID AND CHILD HEALTH PLAN PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.

11 (a) In this section, "mixed-status family" means a family in which  
12 one or more members is not a citizen or national of the United  
13 States and one or more members is a citizen or national of the  
14 United States.

15 (b) The commission shall conduct a public outreach and  
16 education campaign designed to educate and inform mixed-status  
17 families about eligibility requirements under Medicaid and the  
18 child health plan program. The campaign must:

19 (1) clearly explain the programs' eligibility  
20 requirements relating to residency and citizenship status,  
21 including the programs' eligibility requirements for citizens,  
22 qualified aliens, and lawful permanent residents;

23 (2) inform individuals that a child's receipt of  
24 benefits under a program will not affect the immigration status of

1 the child's parent;

2 (3) be tailored to the population targeted by the  
3 campaign, including by providing information in English and Spanish  
4 or another language spoken by the majority of the targeted  
5 population; and

6 (4) be disseminated through methods designed to reach  
7 the targeted population, including by:

8 (A) distributing information and providing  
9 presentations at health fairs; and

10 (B) working with relevant organizations or  
11 groups, including community clinics.

12 (c) To support the campaign conducted under this section,  
13 the commission shall develop informational material about Medicaid  
14 and child health plan program eligibility criteria relating to  
15 residency and citizenship status that is:

16 (1) up-to-date;

17 (2) clear and easy to understand; and

18 (3) made available in English and Spanish or another  
19 language spoken by the majority of a targeted population.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.