

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 60

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to availability of certain services under the Medicaid program and making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. Section 32.027, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Subsections (l) and (m) to read as follows:

(l) The department shall assure that a recipient of medical assistance under this chapter may select a licensed psychologist or a licensed marriage and family therapist, as defined by Section 502.002, Occupations Code, to perform any health care service or procedure covered under the medical assistance program if the selected psychologist or marriage and family therapist is authorized by law to perform the service or procedure. This subsection shall be liberally construed.

(m) The department shall assure that a recipient of medical assistance under this chapter may select a licensed podiatrist to perform any foot health care service or procedure covered under the medical assistance program if the podiatrist is authorized by law to perform the service or procedure. This subsection shall be liberally construed.

SECTION 2. For the fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2003, the Health and Human Services Commission is appropriated from the general revenue fund the amount needed to provide the following types of services under the Medicaid program in a manner comparable

1 to the manner in which the services were provided under the Medicaid
2 program during the preceding fiscal biennium: dental,
3 chiropractic, hearing, vision, home health, hospice, mental
4 health, physical therapy, speech therapy, substance abuse,
5 podiatry, psychology, professional counseling, and professional
6 marriage and family therapy.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
12 legislative session.