

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 1558

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage of anorexia and bulimia as serious mental illnesses under certain group health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1(1), Article 3.51-14, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Serious mental illness" means the following psychiatric illnesses as defined by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM):

(A) schizophrenia;

(B) paranoid and other psychotic disorders;

(C) bipolar disorders (hypomanic, manic, depressive, and mixed);

(D) major depressive disorders (single episode or recurrent);

(E) schizo-affective disorders (bipolar or depressive);

(F) pervasive developmental disorders;

(G) obsessive-compulsive disorders; ~~and~~

(H) depression in childhood and adolescence;

(I) anorexia; and

(J) bulimia.

SECTION 2. (a) On or before September 1, 2008, the Sunset Advisory Commission shall conduct a study to determine:

1           (1) to what extent the health benefit plan coverage  
2 required by the change in law made by this Act to Section 1(1),  
3 Article 3.51-14, Insurance Code, is being used by enrollees in  
4 health benefit plans to which that article applies; and

5           (2) the impact of the required coverage on the cost of  
6 those health benefit plans.

7           (b) The Sunset Advisory Commission shall report its  
8 findings under this section to the legislature on or before January  
9 1, 2009.

10          (c) The Texas Department of Insurance and any other state  
11 agency shall cooperate with the Sunset Advisory Commission as  
12 necessary to implement this section.

13          SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and  
14 applies only to a group health benefit plan that is delivered,  
15 issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2004. A  
16 group health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery,  
17 or renewed before January 1, 2004, is governed by the law as it  
18 existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that  
19 law is continued in effect for that purpose.