

By: Taylor

H.B. No. 1030

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to availability of preferred providers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1301.005, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2005, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) This section may not be construed to limit the level of reimbursement or the level of coverage, including deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing provisions, that are applicable to preferred providers or nonpreferred providers.

SECTION 2. Section 1301.007, Insurance Code, as effective April 1, 2005, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1301.007. RULES. The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to:

(1) implement this chapter; and

(2) ensure reasonable accessibility and availability of preferred provider services [~~benefits and basic level benefits~~] to residents of this state.

SECTION 3. This Act applies only to an insurance policy, certificate, or contract delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2006. A policy, certificate, or contract delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2006, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for

1 that purpose.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.