

Amend SB 23 (house committee printing) as follows:

(1) In SECTION 1.01 of the bill, between amended Section 524.051, Insurance Code, and amended Section 524.052, Insurance Code (page 2, between lines 23 and 24), insert the following:

Sec. 524.0512. INFORMATION ABOUT AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN COVERAGE. The division shall include information in the program's materials about the availability under certain health benefit plans of maximum lifetime benefits for acute or chronic medical conditions as provided by Chapter 1377.

(2) Insert the following appropriately numbered ARTICLE to the bill and renumber subsequent ARTICLES of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE \_\_\_\_ .LIFETIME BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN MEDICAL CONDITIONS

SECTION \_\_\_\_ .01. Subtitle E, Title 8, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Chapter 1377 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1377. MAXIMUM LIFETIME BENEFITS FOR ACUTE OR CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Sec. 1377.001. APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER. (a) This chapter applies only to a health benefit plan that provides benefits for medical or surgical expenses incurred as a result of a health condition, accident, or sickness, including an individual, group, blanket, or franchise insurance policy or insurance agreement, a group hospital service contract, or an individual or group evidence of coverage or similar coverage document that is offered by:

(1) an insurance company;

(2) a group hospital service corporation operating under Chapter 842;

(3) a fraternal benefit society operating under Chapter 885;

(4) a stipulated premium company operating under Chapter 884;

(5) an exchange operating under Chapter 942;

(6) a health maintenance organization operating under Chapter 843;

(7) a multiple employer welfare arrangement that holds a certificate of authority under Chapter 846; or

(8) an approved nonprofit health corporation that holds a certificate of authority under Chapter 844.

(b) This chapter applies to group health coverage made available by a school district in accordance with Section 22.004, Education Code.

(c) Notwithstanding Section 172.014, Local Government Code, or any other law, this chapter applies to health and accident coverage provided by a risk pool created under Chapter 172, Local Government Code.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision in Chapter 1551, 1575, 1579, or 1601 or any other law, this chapter 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) basic coverage under Chapter 1601.

(e) Notwithstanding any other law, a standard health benefit plan provided under Chapter 1507 must provide the coverage required by this chapter.

(f) Notwithstanding Section 1501.251 or any other law, this chapter applies to coverage under a small employer health benefit plan subject to Chapter 1501.

Sec. 1377.002. EXCEPTION. This chapter does not apply to:

(1) a plan that provides coverage:

(A) for wages or payments in lieu of wages for a period during which an employee is absent from work because of sickness or injury;

(B) as a supplement to a liability insurance policy;

(C) for credit insurance;

(D) only for dental or vision care;

(E) only for hospital expenses; or

(F) only for indemnity for hospital confinement;

(2) a Medicare supplemental policy as defined by Section 1882(g)(1), Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1395ss);

(3) a workers' compensation insurance policy;

(4) medical payment insurance coverage provided under a motor vehicle insurance policy; or

(5) a long-term care policy, including a nursing home

fixed indemnity policy, unless the commissioner determines that the policy provides benefit coverage so comprehensive that the policy is a health benefit plan as described by Section 1377.001.

Sec. 1377.003. MAXIMUM LIFETIME BENEFIT. A health benefit plan that limits the maximum lifetime benefit applicable to an acute or chronic medical condition of an individual covered under the plan to a specified dollar amount may not limit the benefit to an amount less than \$5 million.

Sec. 1377.004. RULES. The commissioner may adopt rules in accordance with Subchapter A, Chapter 36, as necessary to implement this article. The rules may specify the types of acute or chronic medical conditions to which the restriction of Section 1377.003 applies.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ .02. Section 1506.151, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) Coverage provided by the pool is subject to Chapter 1377.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ .03. This article applies only to a health benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2008. A health benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2008, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.