

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 2380

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to providing medical assistance to certain former foster  
3 care adolescents.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,  
6 is amended by adding Section 32.02471 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 32.02471. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN FORMER FOSTER  
8 CARE ADOLESCENTS. (a) In this section, "independent foster care  
9 adolescent" has the meaning assigned by Section 32.0247.

10 (b) Except as provided by Subsections (d) and (e), the  
11 department shall provide medical assistance to a person who:

12 (1) is 21 years of age or older but younger than 25  
13 years of age; and

14 (2) would be eligible to receive assistance as an  
15 independent foster care adolescent under Section 32.0247 if the  
16 person were younger than 21 years of age.

17 (c) The department shall apply for and actively pursue a  
18 waiver or other authorization from an appropriate federal agency to  
19 receive matching funds to provide medical assistance under this  
20 section.

21 (d) Pending approval of the waiver or authorization applied  
22 for under Subsection (c), the department shall use state funds  
23 appropriated for that purpose to immediately develop and implement  
24 a program designed to provide health care services and benefits to a

1 person described by Subsection (b) in a manner that is  
2 substantively identical to the medical assistance provided to  
3 independent foster care adolescents under Section 32.0247, except  
4 to the extent that programmatic differences are appropriate because  
5 of the populations served by the programs and the sources of funding  
6 for the programs.

7 (e) If the waiver or authorization applied for under  
8 Subsection (c) is not granted, the department shall continue the  
9 program implemented under Subsection (d) using state funds.

10 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
11 of this Act, the Health and Human Services Commission shall apply to  
12 the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver  
13 or other authorization as required by Section 32.02471, Human  
14 Resources Code, as added by this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.