

By: Zerwas

H.B. No. 2668

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage for bariatric surgical procedures under the Texas Employees Group Benefits Act.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 1551, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1551.228 to read as follows:

Sec. 1551.228. COVERAGE FOR BARIATRIC SURGICAL PROCEDURES.

A group health benefit plan offered under the group benefits program must provide coverage for bariatric surgical procedures that is at least as extensive as the benefit for bariatric surgery provided to Medicare beneficiaries under the National Coverage Determinations Manual published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on February 15, 2006.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to health benefit plans provided under Chapter 1551, Insurance Code, beginning with the 2008-2009 plan year.

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