

By: Patrick, Dan

S.B. No. 1098

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a subsidy for health benefits coverage for certain
3 adopted children.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 162.304, Family Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) and amending Subsection (c) to
7 read as follows:

8 (b-1) The department shall pay a \$150 subsidy each month for
9 the premiums for health benefits coverage for a child with respect
10 to whom a court has entered a final order of adoption if the child:

11 (1) was in the conservatorship of the department at
12 the time of the child's adoptive placement;

13 (2) after the adoption, is not eligible for medical
14 assistance under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code; and

15 (3) is younger than 18 years of age.

16 (b-2) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
17 Services Commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement
18 Subsection (b-1), including rules regarding:

19 (1) the manner in which the department shall pay the
20 subsidy under that subsection; and

21 (2) any documentation required to be provided by an
22 adoptive parent as proof that the subsidy is used to obtain and
23 maintain health benefits coverage for the adopted child.

24 (c) In addition to the subsidies [~~subsidy~~] under

1 Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (b) and (b-1), the department may
2 subsidize the cost of medical care for a child. The department
3 shall determine the amount and need for the subsidy under this
4 subsection.

5 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
6 to financial and medical assistance available under Section
7 162.304, Family Code, as amended by this Act, for a child for whom a
8 final order of adoption is entered on or after the effective date of
9 this Act. Financial and medical assistance for a child for whom a
10 final order of adoption is entered before the effective date of this
11 Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the order was
12 entered, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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