

By: Davis of Dallas

H.B. No. 2723

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to pharmacy networks for health benefit plans for certain governmental employees.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 1551, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1551.226 to read as follows:

Sec. 1551.226. NETWORK PHARMACY PROVIDERS. (a) To achieve cost savings and economies of scale, prescription drugs provided under the group benefits program shall be provided, to the extent practicable, by a limited number of pharmacy providers that have contracted to provide the drugs through a pharmacy network.

(b) The board of trustees may identify regions of the state that have an insufficient number of pharmacy providers participating in the pharmacy network and may provide that, in an identified region, prescription drug benefits may be provided through a pharmacy network established for that region.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1575, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1575.172 to read as follows:

Sec. 1575.172. NETWORK PHARMACY PROVIDERS. (a) To achieve cost savings and economies of scale, prescription drugs provided under the group program shall be provided, to the extent practicable, by a limited number of pharmacy providers that have contracted to provide the drugs through a pharmacy network.

(b) The trustee may identify regions of the state that have

1 an insufficient number of pharmacy providers participating in the
2 pharmacy network and may provide that, in an identified region,
3 prescription drug benefits may be provided through a pharmacy
4 network established for that region.

5 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 1579.109 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1579.109. NETWORK PHARMACY PROVIDERS. (a) To achieve
8 cost savings and economies of scale, prescription drugs provided
9 under the program shall be provided, to the extent practicable, by a
10 limited number of pharmacy providers that have contracted to
11 provide the drugs through a pharmacy network.

12 (b) The trustee may identify regions of the state that have
13 an insufficient number of pharmacy providers participating in the
14 pharmacy network and may provide that, in an identified region,
15 prescription drug benefits may be provided through a pharmacy
16 network established for that region.

17 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 1601, Insurance Code, is
18 amended by adding Section 1601.112 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 1601.112. NETWORK PHARMACY PROVIDERS. (a) To achieve
20 cost savings and economies of scale, prescription drugs provided
21 under a uniform program shall be provided, to the extent
22 practicable, by a limited number of pharmacy providers that have
23 contracted to provide the drugs through a pharmacy network.

24 (b) A system may identify a region served by a uniform
25 program that has an insufficient number of pharmacy providers
26 participating in the pharmacy network and may provide that, in the
27 identified region, prescription drug benefits may be provided

1 through a pharmacy network established for that region.

2 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.