

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 64

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a county mental health services Medicaid waiver program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0226 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0226. COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM. (a) If feasible and cost-effective, the commission may apply for a waiver from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or another appropriate federal agency to more efficiently leverage the use of state and local funds in order to maximize the receipt of federal Medicaid matching funds by providing counties in the state with the flexibility to provide benefits under the Medicaid program to individuals who:

(1) have a net family income that is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level; and

(2) are eligible to receive mental health services through the county.

(b) In establishing the waiver program under this section, the commission shall:

(1) ensure that the state is a prudent purchaser of the health care services that are needed for the individuals described by Subsection (a);

(2) solicit broad-based input from interested

1 persons;

2 (3) ensure that the benefits received by an individual
3 through the county are not reduced once the individual is enrolled
4 in the waiver program; and

5 (4) employ the use of intergovernmental transfers and
6 other procedures to maximize the receipt of federal Medicaid
7 matching funds.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
9 last day of the legislative session.