

Amend CSHB 1951 (senate committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered ARTICLE to the bill and renumbering subsequent ARTICLES accordingly:

ARTICLE _____. INDIVIDUAL HEALTH COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN

SECTION _____.001. Section 1502.002, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1502.002. RULES. (a) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this chapter, including rules necessary to:

(1) increase the availability of coverage to children younger than 19 years of age;

(2) establish open enrollment periods; and

(3) establish qualifying events as exceptions to the open enrollment periods, including loss of coverage when a child becomes ineligible for coverage under the state child health plan.

(b) The commissioner may adopt rules on an emergency basis using the procedures established under Section 2001.034, Government Code.

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), the commissioner is not required to make a finding under Section 2001.034(a), Government Code before adopting rules on an emergency basis.