

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.B. No. 818

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the establishment of a health benefit exchange tailored
3 to the needs of the state.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission,
6 the Texas Department of Insurance, or the commission in conjunction
7 with the department, shall negotiate with the appropriate federal
8 entity for authorization to develop a state health benefit
9 exchange. The negotiated authorization must allow the state health
10 benefit exchange to be flexible, patient-friendly, tailored to the
11 needs of the state, and similar to the health benefit exchange
12 described in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub.
13 L. No. 111-148).

14 (b) If the appropriate federal entity authorizes a state
15 health benefit exchange described in Subsection (a) of this
16 section, the Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas
17 Department of Insurance, or the commission in conjunction with the
18 department, shall develop and implement the health benefit
19 exchange.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.