

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 838

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the definition of serious mental illness for purposes
3 of certain group health benefit plans.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1355.001, Insurance Code, is amended by
6 amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivision (5) to read as
7 follows:

8 (1) "Serious mental illness" means the following
9 psychiatric illnesses as defined by the American Psychiatric
10 Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental
11 Disorders (DSM), fifth edition, or a later edition adopted by the
12 commissioner:

- 13 (A) bipolar disorders (hypomanic, manic,
14 depressive, and mixed);
15 (B) depression in childhood and adolescence;
16 (C) major depressive disorders (single episode
17 or recurrent);
18 (D) obsessive-compulsive disorders;
19 (E) paranoid and other psychotic disorders;
20 (F) posttraumatic stress disorder;
21 (G) schizo-affective disorders (bipolar or
22 depressive); and
23 (H) [~~(G)~~] schizophrenia.

24 (5) "Posttraumatic stress disorder" means a disorder

1 that:

2 (A) meets the diagnostic criteria for
3 posttraumatic stress disorder specified by the American
4 Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of
5 Mental Disorders, fifth edition, or a later edition adopted by the
6 commissioner; and

7 (B) results in an impairment of a person's
8 functioning in the person's community, employment, family, school,
9 or social group.

10 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
11 to a group health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for
12 delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2016. A group health
13 benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed
14 before January 1, 2016, is governed by the law as it existed
15 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
16 continued in effect for that purpose.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.