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H.B. No. 1661

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to Medicaid billing for the services of substitute dentists.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 32.076 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.076. SUBSTITUTE DENTISTS. To the extent allowed by federal law, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt rules ensuring that the same standards applying to a physician who bills the medical assistance program for services provided by a substitute physician apply also to a dentist who bills the medical assistance program for services provided by a substitute dentist.

SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.