

By: Clardy

H.B. No. 2505

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to health benefit plan coverage for abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drugs.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1369, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. COVERAGE FOR ABUSE-DETERRENT OPIOID ANALGESIC DRUGS

Sec. 1369.351. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug" means an opioid analgesic drug that the United States Food and Drug Administration has approved and for which the United States Food and Drug Administration has approved abuse-deterrence labeling that indicates the drug is expected to result in a meaningful reduction in abuse.

(2) "Opioid analgesic drug" means a drug in the opioid analgesic drug class that:

(A) is prescribed to treat moderate to severe pain or other conditions; and

(B) may be:

(i) in an immediate-release or extended-release form of the drug;

(ii) a single component drug; or

(iii) in combination with another drug.

Sec. 1369.352. APPLICABILITY OF SUBCHAPTER. (a) This

1 subchapter applies only to a health benefit plan, including a small
2 employer health benefit plan written under Chapter 1501, that
3 provides benefits for medical or surgical expenses incurred as a
4 result of a health condition, accident, or sickness, including an
5 individual, group, blanket, or franchise insurance policy or
6 insurance agreement, a group hospital service contract, or an
7 individual or group evidence of coverage or similar coverage
8 document that is offered by:

9 (1) an insurance company;

10 (2) a group hospital service corporation operating
11 under Chapter 842;

12 (3) a fraternal benefit society operating under
13 Chapter 885;

14 (4) a stipulated premium company operating under
15 Chapter 884;

16 (5) a reciprocal exchange operating under Chapter 942;

17 (6) a health maintenance organization operating under
18 Chapter 843;

19 (7) a multiple employer welfare arrangement that holds
20 a certificate of authority under Chapter 846; or

21 (8) an approved nonprofit health corporation that
22 holds a certificate of authority under Chapter 844.

23 (b) Notwithstanding Section 1501.251 or any other law, this
24 subchapter applies to a small employer health benefit plan subject
25 to Chapter 1501.

26 (c) Notwithstanding Sections 1507.004 and 1507.053, or any
27 other law, this subchapter applies to a consumer choice of benefits

1 plan issued under Chapter 1507.

2 Sec. 1369.353. EXCEPTIONS. (a) This subchapter does not
3 apply to:

4 (1) a health benefit plan that provides coverage only:

5 (A) for a specified disease or for another
6 limited benefit other than for cancer;

7 (B) for accidental death or dismemberment;

8 (C) for wages or payments in lieu of wages for a
9 period during which an employee is absent from work because of
10 sickness or injury;

11 (D) as a supplement to a liability insurance
12 policy;

13 (E) for credit insurance;

14 (F) for dental or vision care; or

15 (G) for indemnity for hospital confinement;

16 (2) a Medicare supplemental policy as defined by
17 Section 1882(g)(1), Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1395ss),
18 as amended;

19 (3) a workers' compensation insurance policy;

20 (4) medical payment insurance coverage provided under
21 a motor vehicle insurance policy; or

22 (5) a long-term care insurance policy, including a
23 nursing home fixed indemnity policy, unless the commissioner
24 determines that the policy provides benefit coverage so
25 comprehensive that the policy is a health benefit plan as described
26 by Section 1369.102.

27 (b) This subchapter does not apply to:

1 (1) a Medicaid managed care program operated under
2 Chapter 533, Government Code;

3 (2) a Medicaid program operated under Chapter 32,
4 Human Resources Code; or

5 (3) the state child health plan operated under Chapter
6 62 or 63, Health and Safety Code.

7 Sec. 1369.354. REQUIRED COVERAGE FOR ABUSE-DETERRENT
8 OPIOID ANALGESIC DRUGS. (a) A health benefit plan must provide
9 coverage for abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drugs.

10 (b) A health benefit plan issuer may not reduce or limit a
11 payment to a health care professional, or otherwise penalize the
12 professional, because the professional prescribes or dispenses an
13 abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug.

14 Sec. 1369.355. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION. (a) A health benefit
15 plan may require prior authorization for an abuse-deterrent opioid
16 analgesic drug in the same manner that the health benefit plan
17 requires prior authorization for an opioid analgesic drug that does
18 not have abuse-deterrent properties.

19 (b) A health benefit plan may not require an enrollee to use
20 an opioid analgesic drug that does not have abuse-deterrent
21 properties before prior authorization for an abuse-deterrent
22 opioid analgesic drug may be given.

23 SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 1369, Insurance Code, as
24 added by this Act, applies only to a health benefit plan that is
25 delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1,
26 2016. A health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery,
27 or renewed before January 1, 2016, is covered by the law in effect

1 at the time the plan was delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed,
2 and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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