

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1471

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the use of home telemonitoring services under the  
3 Medicaid program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section [531.02164](#), Government Code, is amended  
6 by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (f) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (c) The program required under this section must:

9 (1) provide that home telemonitoring services are  
10 available only to a person [~~persons~~] who:

11 (A) is [~~are~~] diagnosed with a condition for which  
12 the commission makes an evidence-based determination that  
13 monitoring through the use of home telemonitoring services is  
14 cost-effective and feasible [~~one or more of the following~~  
15 ~~conditions:~~

16 [~~(i) pregnancy,~~

17 [~~(ii) diabetes,~~

18 [~~(iii) heart disease,~~

19 [~~(iv) cancer,~~

20 [~~(v) chronic obstructive pulmonary~~  
21 ~~disease,~~

22 [~~(vi) hypertension,~~

23 [~~(vii) congestive heart failure,~~

24 [~~(viii) mental illness or serious emotional~~

1 ~~disturbance;~~

2 [~~(ix) asthma,~~

3 [~~(x) myocardial infarction, or~~

4 [~~(xi) stroke~~]; and

5 (B) exhibits [~~exhibit~~] two or more of the  
6 following risk factors:

7 (i) two or more hospitalizations in the  
8 prior 12-month period;

9 (ii) frequent or recurrent emergency room  
10 admissions;

11 (iii) a documented history of poor  
12 adherence to ordered medication regimens;

13 (iv) a documented history of falls in the  
14 prior six-month period;

15 (v) limited or absent informal support  
16 systems;

17 (vi) living alone or being home alone for  
18 extended periods of time; and

19 (vii) a documented history of care access  
20 challenges;

21 (2) ensure that clinical information gathered by a  
22 home health agency or hospital while providing home telemonitoring  
23 services is shared with the patient's physician; and

24 (3) ensure that the program does not duplicate disease  
25 management program services provided under Section [32.057](#), Human  
26 Resources Code.

27 (f) The commission may conduct pilot projects to collect

1 evidence regarding the effectiveness of using home telemonitoring  
2 services to monitor certain conditions.

3 SECTION 2. Section 531.02176, Government Code, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 531.02176. EXPIRATION OF MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR  
6 PROVISION OF HOME TELEMONITORING SERVICES. Notwithstanding any  
7 other law, the commission may not reimburse providers under the  
8 Medicaid program for the provision of home telemonitoring services  
9 on or after September 1, 2021 [~~2015~~].

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

14 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
15 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
16 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
17 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
18 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
19 waiver or authorization is granted.

20 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.