

By: Garcia

S.B. No. 1478

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage of certain eating disorders as serious mental illnesses under certain group health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1355.001(1), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Serious mental illness" means the following psychiatric illnesses as defined by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM):

(A) bipolar disorders (hypomanic, manic, depressive, and mixed);

(B) depression in childhood and adolescence;

(C) major depressive disorders (single episode or recurrent);

(D) obsessive-compulsive disorders;

(E) paranoid and other psychotic disorders;

(F) schizo-affective disorders (bipolar or depressive); ~~and~~

(G) schizophrenia; and

(H) anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and eating disorders not otherwise specified.

SECTION 2. (a) On or before September 1, 2018, the Sunset Advisory Commission shall conduct a study to determine:

1 (1) to what extent the health benefit plan coverage
2 required by the change in law made by this Act to Section
3 1355.001(1), Insurance Code, is being used by enrollees in health
4 benefit plans to which Subchapter A, Chapter 1355, Insurance Code,
5 applies; and

6 (2) the impact of the required coverage on the cost of
7 those health benefit plans.

8 (b) The Sunset Advisory Commission shall report its
9 findings under this section to the legislature on or before January
10 1, 2019.

11 (c) The Texas Department of Insurance and any other state
12 agency shall cooperate with the Sunset Advisory Commission as
13 necessary to implement this section.

14 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
15 to a group health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for
16 delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2016. A group health
17 benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed
18 before January 1, 2016, is governed by the law as it existed
19 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
20 continued in effect for that purpose.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.