

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.B. No. 831

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to coverage for treatment of craniofacial abnormalities
3 under certain health benefit plans.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1367, Insurance Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 1367.1535 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1367.1535. COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF CRANIOFACIAL
8 ABNORMALITIES. A health benefit plan described by Section 1367.153
9 that provides coverage for reconstructive surgery for craniofacial
10 abnormalities, as defined in accordance with that section, must
11 provide coverage for the treatment of the primary conditions
12 constituting craniofacial abnormalities and secondary conditions
13 related to or arising from craniofacial abnormalities, including:

14 (1) oral and facial surgery, surgical management, and
15 follow-up care;

16 (2) prosthetic treatments, including obturators and
17 speech and feeding appliances;

18 (3) orthodontic treatment and management;

19 (4) preventive and restorative dentistry to ensure
20 good health and adequate dental structures for orthodontic
21 treatment or prosthetic management or therapy;

22 (5) speech-language pathology services, including
23 evaluation and therapy;

24 (6) audiological assessments and amplification

1 devices;

2 (7) otolaryngological treatment and management;

3 (8) psychological assessment and counseling; and

4 (9) genetic assessment counseling for the parents and
5 child.

6 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
7 to a health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or
8 renewed on or after January 1, 2018. A plan delivered, issued for
9 delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2018, is governed by the law
10 as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and
11 that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.