

By: Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 1159

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice given to certain medical providers of a change in placement for a child in foster care.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.018, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d-1) As soon as possible but not later than 24 hours after the department becomes aware of a change in placement of a child in the conservatorship of the department, the department shall give notice of the placement change to:

(1) the managed care organization that contracts with the commission to provide health care services to the child under the STAR Health program; and

(2) the primary care physician listed in the child's health passport.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 533, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 533.0056 to read as follows:

Sec. 533.0056. STAR HEALTH PROGRAM: NOTIFICATION OF PLACEMENT CHANGE. A contract between a managed care organization and the commission for the organization to provide health care services to recipients under the STAR Health program must require the organization to ensure continuity of care for a child whose placement has changed by:

(1) notifying each specialist treating the child of

1 the placement change; and

2 (2) coordinating the transition of care from the
3 child's previous treating primary care physician and treating
4 specialists to the child's new treating primary care physician and
5 treating specialists, if any.

6 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
7 a contract for the provision of health care services under the STAR
8 Health program between the Health and Human Services Commission and
9 a managed care organization under Chapter 533, Government Code,
10 that is entered into or renewed on or after the effective date of
11 this Act.

12 SECTION 4. If before implementing Section 533.0056,
13 Government Code, as added by this Act, the Health and Human Services
14 Commission determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal
15 agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the
16 health and human services agency affected by the provision shall
17 request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that
18 provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

19 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.