

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 2449

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the assignment of health insurance benefits to a physician or health care provider.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1204.053, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), an assignment of benefits by a covered person to a physician or other health care provider authorizes the physician or health care provider to take any action the covered person is authorized to take to recover reimbursement from the insurer for benefits under the health insurance policy or any law or rule applicable to the policy, including an action under:

(1) Chapter 541, 542, or 1467; or

(2) Chapter 17, Business & Commerce Code.

(d) An assignment of benefits may limit the authority of a physician or health care provider to take one or more specific actions otherwise authorized under Subsection (c).

SECTION 2. Section 1204.053, Insurance Code, as amended by this Act, applies to an assignment of benefits made on or after the effective date of this Act. An assignment of benefits made before that date is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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