

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 2942

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to adoption by the commissioner of insurance of network
3 adequacy standards for preferred provider benefit plans that
4 discourage balance billing.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section [1301.0055](#), Insurance Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 1301.0055. NETWORK ADEQUACY STANDARDS. The
9 commissioner shall by rule adopt network adequacy standards that:

10 (1) are adapted to local markets in which an insurer
11 offering a preferred provider benefit plan operates;

12 (2) ensure availability of, and accessibility to, a
13 full range of contracted physicians and health care providers to
14 provide health care services to insureds; ~~and~~

15 (3) on good cause shown, may allow departure from
16 local market network adequacy standards if the commissioner posts
17 on the department's Internet website the name of the preferred
18 provider plan, the insurer offering the plan, and the affected
19 local market; and

20 (4) discourage balance billing as defined by Section
21 [1456.001](#).

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.