

By: Watson

S.B. No. 817

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain mental health screenings under the Texas Health Steps program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 32.0249 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.0249. MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS IN TEXAS HEALTH STEPS PROGRAM. The executive commissioner, in the rules governing the Texas Health Steps program, shall:

(1) require that at least one mental health screening be provided under the program using one or more validated, standardized mental health screening tools to each recipient who is at least 12 years of age but younger than 19 years of age;

(2) require the mental health screening described in Subdivision (1) to be conducted during a recipient's annual medical exam;

(3) allow a provider to conduct a mental health screening using one or more validated, standardized mental health screening tools during each annual medical exam of a recipient described by Subdivision (1); and

(4) only allow a provider to be reimbursed for conducting one mental health screening using one or more validated, standardized mental health screening tools during each annual medical exam of a recipient described by Subdivision (1).

1           SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
2 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
3 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
4 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
5 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
6 waiver or authorization is granted.

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