

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 1257

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage for certain services related to maternal depression under the Medicaid and child health plan programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 62, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 62.1511 to read as follows:

Sec. 62.1511. COVERAGE FOR MATERNAL DEPRESSION SCREENING.

(a) In this section, "maternal depression" means depression of any severity with postpartum onset.

(b) The covered services under the child health plan must include a maternal depression screening for an enrollee's mother, regardless of whether the mother is also an enrollee, that is performed during a covered well-child or other office visit for the enrollee that occurs before the enrollee's first birthday.

(c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section. The rules must be based on:

(1) clinical and empirical evidence concerning maternal depression; and

(2) information provided by relevant physicians and behavioral health organizations.

(d) The commission shall seek, accept, and spend any federal funds that are available for the purposes of this section, including priority funding authorized by Section 317L-1 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), as added

1 by the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. No. 114-255).

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,  
3 is amended by adding Section 32.0561 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 32.0561. MATERNAL DEPRESSION SCREENING. (a) In this  
5 section, "maternal depression" means depression of any severity  
6 with postpartum onset.

7 (b) The commission shall provide medical assistance  
8 reimbursement for a maternal depression screening for a recipient's  
9 mother, regardless of whether the mother is also a recipient, that  
10 is performed during a covered examination for the recipient under  
11 the Texas Health Steps Comprehensive Care Program that occurs  
12 before the recipient's first birthday.

13 (c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary  
14 to implement this section. The rules must be based on:

15 (1) clinical and empirical evidence concerning  
16 maternal depression; and

17 (2) information provided by relevant physicians and  
18 behavioral health organizations.

19 (d) The commission shall seek, accept, and spend any federal  
20 funds that are available for the purposes of this section,  
21 including priority funding authorized by Section 317L-1 of the  
22 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), as added  
23 by the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. No. 114-255).

24 SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
25 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
26 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
27 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or

1 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
2 waiver or authorization is granted.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.