

By: Zaffirini  
(Oliveira)

S.B. No. 1494

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to preauthorization and concurrent review of certain health care services under the workers' compensation system.

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

SECTION 1. Section 413.014, Labor Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c) The commissioner's rules adopted under this section must provide that preauthorization and concurrent review are required at a minimum for:

(1) spinal surgery, as provided by Section 408.026;

(2) work-hardening or work-conditioning services ~~[provided by a health care facility that is not credentialed by an organization recognized by commissioner rules];~~

(3) inpatient hospitalization, including any procedure and length of stay;

(4) physical and occupational therapy;

(5) outpatient or ambulatory surgical services, as defined by commissioner rule; and

(6) any investigational or experimental services or devices.

(c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (c)(2), the commissioner by rule may exempt from preauthorization and concurrent review work-hardening or work-conditioning services provided by a health

1 care facility that is credentialed by an organization designated by  
2 commissioner rule.

3         SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
4 to health care services provided on or after the effective date of  
5 this Act in conjunction with a claim for workers' compensation  
6 benefits, regardless of the date on which the compensable injury  
7 that is the basis of the claim occurred.

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