86R13607 MM-D

By:  Lucio III H.B. No. 4530

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a review of Medicaid dental services provided to children.

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

SECTION 1.  (a) In this section:

(1)  "Abuse" and "fraud" have the meanings assigned by Section 531.1011, Government Code.

(2)  "Commission" means the Health and Human Services Commission.

(3)  "Office of inspector general" means the commission's office of inspector general.

(b)  The office of inspector general shall conduct a thorough review of the provision of Texas Health Steps therapeutic dental benefits to children to determine whether fraud, waste, or abuse is probably occurring with respect to the provision of those benefits. The office shall conduct the review in conjunction with other appropriate divisions of the commission and collaborate with and seek input from stakeholders in the dental industry in this state.

(c)  In determining whether fraud, waste, or abuse is probably occurring in the provision of Texas Health Steps therapeutic dental benefits to children, the office of inspector general and the commission shall:

(1)  review a randomly selected representative sample of those services in a quantity sufficient to allow for the extrapolation of results; and

(2)  use the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry clinical guidelines and appropriate pediatric dentist peer review to:

(A)  determine dental necessity for provided services; and

(B)  assess other factors relevant to determining whether fraud, waste, or abuse is probably occurring.

(d)  Not later than November 1, 2020, the office of inspector general and the commission shall submit a joint report on the results of the review to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over Medicaid. The report must include:

(1)  a description of any policy changes implemented through commission rules as a result of the review; and

(2)  recommendations for statutory changes, including any proposed legislation, to address any fraud, waste, and abuse identified as probably occurring in the provision of Texas Health Steps therapeutic dental benefits to children.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.