By:  West S.B. No. 1564

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder under Medicaid.

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

SECTION 1.  (a)  In this section, "qualifying practitioner" has the meaning assigned by 21 U.S.C. Section 823(g)(2)(G)(iii).

(b)  Not later than November 1, 2019, the Health and Human Services Commission shall amend the commission's Medicaid Substance Use Disorder Services Medical Policy and any other provider or claims payment policy or manual necessary to authorize Medicaid medical benefits reimbursement for the prescribing of buprenorphine for the treatment of an opioid use disorder by an advanced practice registered nurse recognized by the Texas Board of Nursing as a clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, or nurse midwife, provided that the advanced practice registered nurse:

(1)  is a qualifying practitioner; and

(2)  has obtained a waiver from registration requirements as provided by 21 U.S.C. Section 823(g).

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.