By:  Paxton S.B. No. 1852

(Smithee)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to disclosures required in connection with the issuance of certain health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 1507.006(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Each applicant for initial coverage [~~and each policyholder on renewal of coverage~~] must sign the disclosure statement provided by the health carrier under Subsection (a) and return the statement to the health carrier. Under a group policy or contract, the term "applicant" means the employer.

SECTION 2.  Section 1507.056(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Each applicant for initial enrollment [~~and each contract holder on renewal~~] must sign the disclosure statement provided by the health maintenance organization under Subsection (a) and return the statement to the health maintenance organization. Under a group evidence of coverage, the term "applicant" means the employer.

SECTION 3.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a policy or evidence of coverage delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after the effective date of this Act. A policy or evidence of coverage delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.