By: Ortega, Button, Allison, Guerra, Sheffield

H.B. No. 1589

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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- 2 relating to providing notification to certain pregnant women
- 3 regarding their eligibility for coverage under Medicaid and the
- 4 Healthy Texas Women program.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
- 7 amended by adding Section 531.0995 to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 531.0995. NOTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL AUTOMATIC
- 9 ENROLLMENT IN THE HEALTHY TEXAS WOMEN PROGRAM. (a) In this
- 10 section, "Healthy Texas Women program" means a program operated by
- 11 the commission that is substantially similar to the demonstration
- 12 project operated under former Section 32.0248, Human Resources
- 13 Code, and that is intended to expand access to preventive health and
- 14 family planning services for women in this state.
- 15 (b) Subject to Subsection (c), the executive commissioner
- 16 shall adopt rules requiring the commission to provide to a woman who
- 17 is a recipient of Medicaid during her pregnancy written notice
- 18 <u>that:</u>
- 19 (1) the woman has continuous coverage under Medicaid
- 20 through the second month after the pregnancy ends;
- 21 (2) if appropriate, the woman's eligibility for
- 22 enrollment in the Healthy Texas Women program will be determined
- 23 approximately 30 days after the date the woman's pregnancy ends;
- 24 and

- 1 (3) if the woman is determined eligible for the
- 2 Healthy Texas Women program:
- 3 (A) she will be automatically enrolled in the
- 4 program; and
- 5 (B) her coverage under the program begins on the
- 6 first day following the date her Medicaid coverage ends.
- 7 (c) The executive commissioner shall consult with the
- 8 Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force established under
- 9 Chapter 34, Health and Safety Code, to determine when and the manner
- 10 by which the notice required under Subsection (b) should be
- 11 provided to women. If feasible, the commission shall provide the
- 12 notice to a woman before the third trimester of her pregnancy. This
- 13 subsection expires January 1, 2020.
- 14 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2020, the executive
- 15 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
- 16 adopt rules required by Section 531.0995, Government Code, as added
- 17 by this Act.
- SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act
- 19 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
- 20 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
- 21 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
- 22 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
- 23 waiver or authorization is granted.
- SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.