

By: Deshotel, Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 1647

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1647:

By: Noble

C.S.H.B. No. 1647

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the development of a dental services benefit under  
3 Medicaid for adult recipients with disabilities and a pilot program  
4 to provide those services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,  
7 is amended by adding Section 32.0545 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 32.0545. DENTAL SERVICES BENEFIT FOR CERTAIN  
9 RECIPIENTS; PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall develop a  
10 dental services benefit under the medical assistance program for  
11 adult recipients with disabilities. The dental services benefit  
12 must be:

13 (1) cost-effective and designed to achieve cost  
14 savings;

15 (2) designed to reduce emergency room visits by or  
16 hospitalizations of adult recipients with disabilities resulting  
17 from a lack of access to dental services; and

18 (3) designed to meet the individual needs of adult  
19 recipients with disabilities.

20 (b) In developing the dental services benefit under this  
21 section, the commission shall evaluate dental services benefits  
22 provided under medical assistance waiver programs authorized under  
23 Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section  
24 1315) and dental services benefits provided as a value-added

1 service under the Medicaid managed care delivery model.

2 (c) Not later than September 1, 2020, the commission shall  
3 prepare and submit to the legislature a written report on the dental  
4 services benefit developed under this section.

5 (d) The commission may establish and operate a pilot program  
6 to provide the dental services benefit developed under this section  
7 in one or more geographic areas of this state. The pilot program  
8 must conclude not later than September 1, 2022. If the commission  
9 establishes the pilot program under this section, the commission  
10 shall prepare and submit to the legislature a written report that  
11 summarizes the results of the pilot program not later than December  
12 1, 2022.

13 (e) This section expires September 1, 2023.

14 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
15 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
16 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
17 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
18 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
19 waiver or authorization is granted.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.