

By: Davis of Harris, Zerwas, Hinojosa,
Thompson of Harris, Miller

H.B. No. 1879

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1879:

By: Thompson of Harris

C.S.H.B. No. 1879

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the automatic enrollment of certain women in Medicaid
and the Healthy Texas Women program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
amended by adding Sections 531.0997 and 531.09971 to read as
follows:

Sec. 531.0997. AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN WOMEN IN
HEALTHY TEXAS WOMEN PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "Healthy Texas
Women program" means a program operated by the commission that is
substantially similar to the demonstration project operated under
former Section 32.0248, Human Resources Code, and that is intended
to expand access to preventive health and family planning services
for women in this state.

(b) Subject to the eligibility requirements of the Healthy
Texas Women program, the commission shall identify and
automatically enroll in the program a woman who is a Medicaid
recipient or enrollee in the child health plan program but who will
lose eligibility for benefits under the applicable program because
of the woman's age. The commission shall implement the automatic
enrollment in a manner that:

(1) ensures a seamless transition in the provision of
services between Medicaid or the child health plan program, as
applicable, and the Healthy Texas Women program; and

1 (2) allows a woman to begin receiving services through
2 the Healthy Texas Women program on the first day the woman is no
3 longer eligible for Medicaid or the child health plan program, as
4 applicable.

5 (c) The commission shall, at the time a woman is
6 automatically enrolled under Subsection (b) in the Healthy Texas
7 Women program:

8 (1) provide to the woman written notice that:

9 (A) she has been automatically enrolled in the
10 program but may disenroll; and

11 (B) instructs the woman on how to disenroll from
12 the program; and

13 (2) provide to the woman information about the
14 program, including the services provided under the program.

15 (d) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary
16 to implement this section.

17 Sec. 531.09971. AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN WOMEN IN
18 MEDICAID. (a) In this section, "Healthy Texas Women program" has
19 the meaning assigned by Section 531.0997.

20 (b) The commission shall identify and automatically enroll
21 in Medicaid a woman who:

22 (1) becomes pregnant while receiving services through
23 the Healthy Texas Women program; and

24 (2) is eligible for Medicaid.

25 (c) The commission shall implement the automatic enrollment
26 in a manner that:

27 (1) ensures a seamless transition in the provision of

1 services between the Healthy Texas Women program and Medicaid; and

2 (2) allows a woman to begin receiving services through
3 Medicaid on the first day the woman is enrolled in the program.

4 (d) The commission shall, at the time a woman is
5 automatically enrolled under Subsection (b) in Medicaid:

6 (1) provide to the woman written notice that:

7 (A) she has been automatically enrolled in the
8 program but may disenroll; and

9 (B) instructs the woman on how to disenroll from
10 the program; and

11 (2) provide to the woman information about the
12 program, including the services provided under the program.

13 (e) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary
14 to implement this section.

15 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a
16 woman who is a recipient of medical assistance under Chapter 32,
17 Human Resources Code, benefits through the child health plan
18 program under Chapter 62, Health and Safety Code, or services
19 through the Healthy Texas Women program, on or after the effective
20 date of this Act, regardless of the date on which eligibility for
21 medical assistance, the child health plan program, or the Healthy
22 Texas Women program was determined.

23 SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act
24 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization, including
25 a state plan amendment, from a federal agency is necessary for
26 implementation of that provision, the agency affected by the
27 provision shall request the waiver or authorization and may delay

1 implementing that provision until the waiver or authorization is
2 granted.

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