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H.B. No. 1968

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to coverage for treatment of craniofacial abnormalities  
under certain health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1367, Insurance Code, is  
amended by adding Section 1367.1535 to read as follows:

Sec. 1367.1535. COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF CRANIOFACIAL  
ABNORMALITIES. A health benefit plan described by Section 1367.153  
that provides coverage for reconstructive surgery for craniofacial  
abnormalities, as defined in accordance with that section, must  
provide coverage for the treatment of the primary conditions  
constituting craniofacial abnormalities and secondary conditions  
related to or arising from craniofacial abnormalities, including:

(1) oral and facial surgery, surgical management, and  
follow-up care;

(2) prosthetic treatments, including obturators and  
speech and feeding appliances;

(3) orthodontic treatment and management;

(4) preventive and restorative dentistry to ensure  
good health and adequate dental structures for orthodontic  
treatment or prosthetic management or therapy;

(5) speech-language pathology services, including  
evaluation and therapy;

(6) audiological assessments and amplification

1 devices;

2 (7) otolaryngological treatment and management;

3 (8) psychological assessment and counseling; and

4 (9) genetic assessment counseling for the parents and  
5 child.

6 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
7 to a health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or  
8 renewed on or after January 1, 2020. A plan delivered, issued for  
9 delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2020, is governed by the law  
10 as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and  
11 that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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