By: Anderson, J. Johnson of Dallas,   H.B. No. 1968
    Davis of Harris, Vo, Paul

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2 relating to coverage for treatment of craniofacial abnormalities

3 under certain health benefit plans.

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

5   SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1367, Insurance Code, is

6 amended by adding Section 1367.1535 to read as follows:

7   Sec. 1367.1535. COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF CRANIOFACIAL

8 ABNORMALITIES. A health benefit plan described by Section 1367.153

9 that provides coverage for reconstructive surgery for craniofacial

10 abnormalities, as defined in accordance with that section, must

11 provide coverage for the treatment of the primary conditions

12 constituting craniofacial abnormalities and secondary conditions

13 related to or arising from craniofacial abnormalities, including:

14   (1) oral and facial surgery, surgical management, and

15 follow-up care;

16   (2) prosthetic treatments, including obturators and

17 speech and feeding appliances;

18   (3) orthodontic treatment and management;

19   (4) preventive and restorative dentistry to ensure

20 good health and adequate dental structures for orthodontic

21 treatment or prosthetic management or therapy;

22   (5) speech-language pathology services, including

23 evaluation and therapy;

24   (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.