

By: Anderson

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.