

By: Swanson

H.B. No. 2447

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibited actions regarding health benefit plan coverage for enrollees who refuse to have an abortion.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 1454, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1454.003 to read as follows:

Sec. 1454.003. LOSS OF COVERAGE FOR ABORTION REFUSAL PROHIBITED. A health benefit plan issuer may not condition continued health benefit coverage for an enrollee on the enrollee having or require the enrollee to have an abortion regardless of whether a physician or health care practitioner has diagnosed the enrollee's unborn child as unviable or having a fetal abnormality.

SECTION 2. The heading to Chapter 1696, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1696. COVERAGE FOR AND REQUIREMENT TO HAVE ELECTIVE ABORTION; PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 3. The heading to Section 1696.002, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1696.002. PROHIBITED COVERAGE AND REQUIREMENTS THROUGH HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE.

SECTION 4. Section 1696.002, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) An issuer of a qualified plan offered through a health benefit exchange may not condition continued health benefit

1 coverage for an enrollee on the enrollee having or require the
2 enrollee to have an abortion regardless of whether a physician or
3 health care practitioner has diagnosed the enrollee's unborn child
4 as unviable or having a fetal abnormality.

5 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
6 a health benefit or qualified plan delivered, issued for delivery,
7 or renewed on or after January 1, 2020.

8 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.