

1-1 By: Fierro (Senate Sponsor - Rodríguez) H.B. No. 4559  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2019;  
 1-3 May 6, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal  
 1-4 Justice; May 17, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 17, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Whitmire	X			
1-8 Huffman			X	
1-9 Buckingham	X			
1-10 Flores	X			
1-11 Hughes	X			
1-12 Miles	X			
1-13 Perry	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to access to a county jail prisoner's health benefits  
 1-18 coverage information for mental health service providers.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Chapter 511, Government Code, is amended by  
 1-21 adding Section 511.0098 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 511.0098. PRISONER HEALTH BENEFITS COVERAGE  
 1-23 INFORMATION; PAYMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. (a) The  
 1-24 commission shall adopt procedures by which a local mental health  
 1-25 authority or other mental health services provider providing  
 1-26 services to a prisoner in a county jail under a contract with the  
 1-27 county may collect the following from a prisoner who receives those  
 1-28 services and is covered by health insurance or other health  
 1-29 benefits coverage:

1-30 (1) the name of the policyholder or group contract  
 1-31 holder;

1-32 (2) the number of the policy or evidence of coverage;

1-33 (3) a copy of the health coverage membership card, if  
 1-34 available; and

1-35 (4) any other information necessary for the prisoner  
 1-36 to obtain benefits under the coverage.

1-37 (b) A local mental health authority or other mental health  
 1-38 services provider who provides mental health services to a prisoner  
 1-39 under a contract with a county may arrange for the issuer of the  
 1-40 health insurance policy or other health benefits coverage to pay  
 1-41 for those services.

1-42 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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