

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 937

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a pilot program for providing services to certain women and children under the Medicaid medical transportation program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.024141 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.024141. PILOT PROGRAM FOR PROVIDING MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM SERVICES TO PREGNANT WOMEN AND NEW MOTHERS.

(a) In this section:

(1) "Medicaid managed care organization" means a managed care organization as defined by Section 533.001 that contracts with the commission under Chapter 533 to provide health care services to Medicaid recipients.

(2) "Medical transportation program" has the meaning assigned by Section 531.02414.

(b) The commission, in collaboration with the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force established under Chapter 34, Health and Safety Code, shall develop and, not later than September 1, 2020, implement a pilot program in at least one health care service region, as defined by Section 533.001, that allows for a Medicaid managed care organization that participates in the pilot program to arrange for and provide medical transportation program services to:

(1) a woman who is enrolled in the STAR Medicaid

1 managed care program during the woman's pregnancy and after she
2 delivers; and

3 (2) the child of a woman described by Subdivision (1)
4 who accompanies the woman.

5 (c) A Medicaid managed care organization that participates
6 in the pilot program may arrange for and provide the medical
7 transportation program services described by Subsection (b) only if
8 the provision of the services does not result in additional costs to
9 Medicaid or the commission.

10 (d) In developing the pilot program, the commission shall
11 ensure that a Medicaid managed care organization participating in
12 the pilot program provides medical transportation services in a
13 safe and efficient manner.

14 (e) Not later than December 1, 2020, the commission shall
15 report to the legislature on the implementation of the pilot
16 program.

17 (f) The commission shall evaluate the results of the pilot
18 program and determine whether the program:

19 (1) is cost-effective;

20 (2) improves the efficiency and quality of services
21 provided under the medical transportation program; and

22 (3) is effective in:

23 (A) increasing access to prenatal and postpartum
24 health care services;

25 (B) reducing pregnancy-related complications;
26 and

27 (C) decreasing the rate of missed appointments

1 for covered health care services by women enrolled in the STAR
2 Medicaid managed care program.

3 (g) Not later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall
4 submit a report to the legislature on the results of the pilot
5 program. The commission shall include in the report a
6 recommendation regarding whether the pilot program should
7 continue, be expanded, or terminate.

8 (h) The executive commissioner may adopt rules to implement
9 this section.

10 (i) This section expires September 1, 2023.

11 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
12 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
13 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
14 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
15 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
16 waiver or authorization is granted.

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