

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 1534

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to demonstration projects to coordinate eligibility
3 renewal and eligibility recertification for certain children in the
4 Medicaid and child health plan programs.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 62, Health and Safety
7 Code, is amended by adding Section 62.1025 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 62.1025. ELIGIBILITY RENEWAL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

9 (a) The commission shall establish a demonstration project in one
10 or more geographic areas of this state through the child health plan
11 program to allow the commission to simultaneously renew the
12 eligibility and review the household income of each child residing
13 in the same household who is eligible for enrollment in the program.

14 (b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to
15 determine the scope of, and eligibility for participation in, the
16 demonstration project. The rules adopted by the executive
17 commissioner under this subsection shall ensure that the household
18 income of each child participating in the demonstration project is
19 reviewed:

20 (1) not more than twice during the 12-month period
21 during which a child remains eligible to receive child health plan
22 program benefits, including at the time eligibility under the
23 program is renewed; and

24 (2) at the same time as each other child residing in

1 the same household who is eligible for enrollment in the program.

2 (c) If feasible, the commission shall operate the
3 demonstration project established under this section in
4 conjunction with the demonstration project established under
5 Section 32.02614, Human Resources Code.

6 (d) Not later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall
7 submit a report to the legislature regarding the commission's
8 progress in establishing and operating the demonstration project
9 and recommendations on continuing or expanding the demonstration
10 project.

11 (e) This section expires September 1, 2023.

12 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,
13 is amended by adding Section 32.02614 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 32.02614. ELIGIBILITY RECERTIFICATION DEMONSTRATION
15 PROJECT. (a) The commission shall establish a demonstration
16 project in one or more geographic areas of this state through the
17 medical assistance program to allow the commission to
18 simultaneously recertify the eligibility and verify the household
19 income of each child residing in the same household who is eligible
20 for medical assistance under this chapter.

21 (b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to
22 determine the scope of, and eligibility for participation in, the
23 demonstration project. The rules adopted by the executive
24 commissioner under this subsection shall ensure that the household
25 income of each child participating in the demonstration project is
26 verified:

27 (1) not more than twice during the 12-month period

1 during which a child remains eligible to receive medical assistance
2 program benefits, including at the time eligibility under the
3 program is recertified; and

4 (2) at the same time as each other child residing in
5 the same household who is eligible for medical assistance program
6 benefits.

7 (c) If feasible, the commission shall operate the
8 demonstration project established under this section in
9 conjunction with the demonstration project established under
10 Section 62.1025, Health and Safety Code.

11 (d) Not later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall
12 submit a report to the legislature regarding the commission's
13 progress in establishing and operating the demonstration project
14 and recommendations on continuing or expanding the demonstration
15 project.

16 (e) This section expires September 1, 2023.

17 SECTION 3. Not later than September 1, 2020, the Health and
18 Human Services Commission shall implement the eligibility renewal
19 and eligibility recertification demonstration projects required by
20 Section 62.1025, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, and
21 Section 32.02614, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act.

22 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act
23 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
24 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
25 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
26 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
27 waiver or authorization is granted.

1 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.