

By: Guerra

H.B. No. 1629

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to improvements to the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures  
3 Manual designed to prevent fraud, waste, or abuse in the provision  
4 of Medicaid dental services.

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

6 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

7 (1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services  
8 Commission.

9 (2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive  
10 commissioner of the commission.

11 (3) "Medicaid" means the medical assistance program  
12 established under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code.

13 (4) "Work group" means the work group established  
14 under Section 2 of this Act.

15 SECTION 2. WORK GROUP ON IMPROVING TEXAS MEDICAID PROVIDER  
16 PROCEDURES MANUAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO DENTAL SERVICES. (a) The  
17 executive commissioner shall establish a work group for the purpose  
18 of providing recommendations to improve the Texas Medicaid Provider  
19 Procedures Manual in a manner that prevents the incidence of fraud,  
20 waste, or abuse in the provision of Medicaid dental services.

21 (b) The executive commissioner shall appoint the members of  
22 the work group, which must include:

23 (1) a representative of the commission;

24 (2) the dental director appointed under Section

1 531.02114, Government Code;

2 (3) a representative of the commission's office of  
3 inspector general;

4 (4) at least one stakeholder to represent each of the  
5 following interests:

6 (A) managed care organizations that contract  
7 with the commission to provide Medicaid dental services;

8 (B) providers of Medicaid dental services; and

9 (C) dental academia; and

10 (5) additional stakeholders or other persons the  
11 executive commissioner determines appropriate.

12 (c) The commission shall provide administrative support to  
13 the work group.

14 (d) The executive commissioner shall appoint a member of the  
15 work group to serve as the presiding officer.

16 (e) The work group shall meet at the call of the presiding  
17 officer.

18 (f) The work group shall:

19 (1) review all provisions in the Texas Medicaid  
20 Provider Procedures Manual related to the provision of dental  
21 services;

22 (2) determine which provisions can be eliminated or  
23 changed to prevent fraud, waste, or abuse in the provision of dental  
24 services, including changes related to the use of dental procedure  
25 codes by providers; and

26 (3) make recommendations to the executive  
27 commissioner for improving the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures

1 Manual to prevent fraud, waste, or abuse in the provision of dental  
2 services under Medicaid.

3 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2022, the  
4 work group shall submit a report on the work group's  
5 recommendations to the executive commissioner.

6 SECTION 4. ACTION ON REPORT. On receiving the work group's  
7 recommendations, the executive commissioner shall:

8 (1) consider immediately adopting the recommendations  
9 of the work group that do not require legislative action; and

10 (2) if implementation of a recommendation requires  
11 legislative action, submit to the legislature a copy of the report  
12 described by Section 3 of this Act together with the executive  
13 commissioner's recommendations for any legislative action.

14 SECTION 5. ABOLISHMENT OF WORK GROUP; EXPIRATION. On  
15 January 1, 2023:

16 (1) the work group is abolished; and

17 (2) this Act expires.

18 SECTION 6. FEDERAL AUTHORIZATION. If before implementing  
19 any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or  
20 authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation  
21 of that provision, the agency affected by the provision shall  
22 request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that  
23 provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

24 SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
25 1, 2021.