

By: Larson

H.B. No. 1730

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the expansion of eligibility for Medicaid to all persons for whom federal matching money is available.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 32.02473 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.02473. EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall provide medical assistance to all persons who apply for that assistance and for whom federal matching money is available.

(b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules regarding the provision of medical assistance as required by this section.

SECTION 2. Section 32.02473, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an initial determination or recertification of eligibility of a person for medical assistance under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, made on or after the date the section is implemented, regardless of the date the person applied for that assistance.

SECTION 3. As soon as possible after the effective date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall take all necessary actions to expand eligibility for medical assistance under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, in accordance with Section 32.02473, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act, including notifying

1 appropriate federal agencies of that expanded eligibility. If
2 before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency
3 determines that any other waiver or authorization from a federal
4 agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the
5 agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
6 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
7 waiver or authorization is granted.

8 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2022, but only
9 if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 87th Legislature,
10 Regular Session, 2021, requiring the state to expand eligibility
11 for Medicaid to all persons for whom federal matching money is
12 available is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not
13 approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.