

By: Johnson of Dallas

H.B. No. 2984

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to health benefit plan coverage for treatment of autism.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1355.015, Insurance Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a-1) and (c-1) and adding Subsection (c-2) to read as follows:

(a-1) At a minimum, a health benefit plan must provide coverage for treatment of autism spectrum disorder as provided by this section to an enrollee who is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder from the date of diagnosis, only if the diagnosis was in place prior to the enrollee's 22nd ~~[child's 10th]~~ birthday.

(c-1) The health benefit plan may ~~[is]~~ not require ~~[required to provide coverage under Subsection (b) for benefits for]~~ an enrollee to be evaluated for autism spectrum disorder more than once every 10 years ~~[of age or older for applied behavior analysis in an amount that exceeds \$36,000 per year]~~.

(c-2) The health benefit plan may not prohibit or place a limitation on a health care practitioner described by Subsection (b)(1) from performing an evaluation requested by the plan's issuer.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a health benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022. A health benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2022, is governed

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1 by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of
2 this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.