

By: Rose

H.B. No. 4343

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the content of an application for Medicaid.

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

SECTION 1. Section 32.025(g), Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

(g) The application form adopted under this section must include:

(1) for an applicant who is pregnant, a question regarding whether the pregnancy is the woman's first gestational pregnancy; and

(2) for all applicants, a question regarding the applicant's preferences for being contacted, as follows:

"If you are determined eligible for benefits, your managed care organization or health plan provider may contact you by telephone, text message, or e-mail about health care matters, including reminders for appointments and information about immunizations or well check visits. All preferred methods of contact listed on this application will be shared with your managed care organization or health plan provider.

If your preferred method of contact about health care matters is by electronic communication, including text message or e-mail, please be advised that while your managed care organization or health plan provider is required to protect the security of that communication, because electronic communication

1 may not be encrypted there is still a risk of a security breach,
2 including the risk of confidential or private information being
3 intercepted by an unauthorized third party. By completing the form
4 below, you acknowledge that you understand the risks associated
5 with and consent to the use of electronic communication.

6 Please indicate below your preferred methods of
7 contact in order of preference, with the number 1 being the most
8 preferable method:

9 (1) By telephone (if contacted by cellular telephone, the
10 call may be autodialed or prerecorded, and your carrier's usage
11 rates may apply)? Yes No

12 Telephone number: _____

13 Order of preference: 1 2 3 (circle a number)

14 (2) By text message (a free autodialed service, but your
15 carrier may charge message and data rates)? Yes No

16 Cellular telephone number: _____

17 Order of preference: 1 2 3 (circle a number)

18 (3) By e-mail? Yes No

19 E-mail address: _____

20 Order of preference: 1 2 3 (circle a number)".

21 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2022, the executive
22 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
23 adopt a revised application form for medical assistance benefits
24 that conforms to the requirements of Section 32.025(g), Human
25 Resources Code, as amended by this Act.

26 SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act
27 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a

1 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
2 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
3 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
4 waiver or authorization is granted.

5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.