

By: Gutierrez

S.B. No. 939

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to copayments required by a health maintenance  
3 organization or preferred provider benefit plan for visiting  
4 physical therapists.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 843, Insurance Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 843.212 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 843.212. PHYSICAL THERAPIST COPAYMENT LIMIT. A health  
9 care plan that requires an enrollee to pay a copayment for an office  
10 visit with the enrollee's primary care physician or provider may  
11 not charge a higher copayment amount to that enrollee for an office  
12 visit with a physical therapist.

13 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1301, Insurance Code, is  
14 amended by adding Section 1301.166 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 1301.166. PHYSICAL THERAPIST COPAYMENT LIMIT. A  
16 preferred provider benefit plan that requires an insured to pay a  
17 copayment for an office visit with the insured's primary care  
18 physician or provider may not charge a higher copayment amount to  
19 that insured for an office visit with a physical therapist.

20 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
21 a health benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on  
22 or after January 1, 2022.

23 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.