HB 3662

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: March 30, 2021 8:00 AM

Amber Marin

Protect tx fragile kids

Sugar Land, TX

I appose this bill

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Alicia Dunn, Vice President, Community Impact

United Way of Central Texas

Temple, TX

I am writing you today in support of House Bill 3662, and of Scott & White Health Plan (SWHP), part of Baylor Scott & White Health. HB 3662 would extend mandated contracts in Medicaid to include the Scott and White Health Plan for the Central Texas Medicaid region.

For nearly 40 years, SWHP has been part of our community, offering high-quality coverage with unparalleled customer satisfaction, while making significant investments in our community.

Community health plans like SWHP are consistently ranked as providing some of the highest quality coverage for Texans. According to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), SWHP is the only plan in Texas to have at least 4-stars in customer satisfaction across commercial, Medicare, and Medicaid products. SWHP recently earned 4.5 stars from CMS for its Medicare Advantage product, one of only 63 plans nationally. Additionally, the NCQA scored SWHP in the top two among Medicaid plans in Texas. Community health plans are consumer-centric and laser-focused on quality and value.

Non-profit health systems also make significant investments in their communities. In 2019, Baylor Scott & White Health reported $966 million in community benefit which includes charity care and programs that improve the health and well-being of our community. They are also an economic driver by creating jobs and recruiting/retaining highly skilled people into the community. These are Texas companies that employ Texans.

United Way of Central Texas sees the value these entities bring to our communities. Having a non-profit community health plan here allows access to quality care that is also personal. The health plan is headquartered in Temple, Texas and the people who work there are neighbors and friends. Not only does the legislation support local business, it also supports healthy competition among plans for beneficiaries. This legislation would help ensure local beneficiaries have a choice among health plans, including the Scott and White Health Plan.

Simply said, the community health plan model works. It works for patients, it works for our communities, and it works for Texans. I appreciate your time today in reading my letter. Protecting Texas businesses needs to be a priority and I believe these bills accomplish that.

Sincerely,
Alicia Winegar Dunn
Vice President, Community Impact

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