By:  Cole, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Blanco) H.B. No. 687

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 1, 2023; May 1, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human Services; May 21, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 21, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Kolkhorst         X

Perry             X

Blanco            X

Hall              X

Hancock           X

Hughes                      X

LaMantia          X

Miles             X

Sparks            X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the enrollment period for newborns under certain employer health benefit plans.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 846.258(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Coverage of a newborn child of a participating employee under this section ends on the 61st [~~32nd~~] day after the date of the child's birth unless:

(1)  children are eligible for coverage under the multiple employer welfare arrangement's plan document; and

(2)  not later than the 60th [~~31st~~] day after the date of birth, the arrangement receives:

(A)  notice of the birth; and

(B)  any required additional premium.

SECTION 2.  Section 1501.157(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Coverage of a newborn child of a covered employee under this section ends on the 61st [~~32nd~~] day after the date of the child's birth unless, not later than the 60th [~~31st~~] day after the date of birth, the small employer health benefit plan issuer receives:

(1)  notice of the birth; and

(2)  any required additional premium.

SECTION 3.  Section 1501.607(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Coverage of a newborn child of a covered employee under this section ends on the 61st [~~32nd~~] day after the date of the child's birth unless:

(1)  children are eligible for coverage under the large employer health benefit plan; and

(2)  not later than the 60th [~~31st~~] day after the date of birth, the large employer health benefit plan issuer receives:

(A)  notice of the birth; and

(B)  any required additional premium.

SECTION 4.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2024. A health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2024, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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