

By: Simmons

H.B. No. 2477

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to coverage for doula services under certain group benefit
3 plans for governmental employees and retirees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 1551, Insurance Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 1551.232 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1551.232. COVERAGE FOR DOULA SERVICES. (a) In this
8 section, "doula services" means nonmedical childbirth education,
9 coaching, and support services, including emotional and physical
10 support provided during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and the
11 postpartum period, or provided intermittently during pregnancy and
12 the postpartum period.

13 (b) A health benefit plan provided under the group benefits
14 program must provide coverage for doula services.

15 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1575, Insurance Code, is
16 amended by adding Section 1575.175 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 1575.175. COVERAGE FOR DOULA SERVICES. (a) In this
18 section, "doula services" means nonmedical childbirth education,
19 coaching, and support services, including emotional and physical
20 support provided during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and the
21 postpartum period, or provided intermittently during pregnancy and
22 the postpartum period.

23 (b) A basic plan provided under the group program must
24 provide coverage for doula services.

1 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is
2 amended by adding Section 1579.113 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 1579.113. COVERAGE FOR DOULA SERVICES. (a) In this
4 section, "doula services" means nonmedical childbirth education,
5 coaching, and support services, including emotional and physical
6 support provided during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and the
7 postpartum period, or provided intermittently during pregnancy and
8 the postpartum period.

9 (b) A health coverage plan provided under this chapter must
10 provide coverage for doula services.

11 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 1601, Insurance Code, is
12 amended by adding Section 1601.112 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 1601.112. COVERAGE FOR DOULA SERVICES. (a) In this
14 section, "doula services" means nonmedical childbirth education,
15 coaching, and support services, including emotional and physical
16 support provided during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and the
17 postpartum period, or provided intermittently during pregnancy and
18 the postpartum period.

19 (b) A health benefit plan provided under this chapter must
20 provide coverage for doula services.

21 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
22 a plan year that commences on or after January 1, 2026.

23 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.