

By: Simmons

H.B. No. 2924

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to Medicaid reimbursement for certain costs incurred while  
3 a chronically ill Medicaid recipient who is a child receives  
4 hospital care.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 32, Human Resources Code,  
7 is amended by adding Section 32.0318 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 32.0318. REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTAIN COSTS RELATED TO  
9 HOSPITAL CARE FOR CHRONICALLY ILL CHILDREN. (a) In this section:

10 (1) "Hospital" means a hospital licensed under Chapter  
11 241, Health and Safety Code.

12 (2) "Medicaid managed care organization" has the  
13 meaning assigned by Section 521.0001, Government Code.

14 (3) "Recipient" means a recipient of medical  
15 assistance regardless of whether that assistance is provided  
16 through a fee-for-service or managed care model or through another  
17 payment model or arrangement.

18 (b) Subject to the requirements of this subsection, the  
19 commission shall ensure that medical assistance reimbursement is  
20 provided for the costs of food purchased from and parking at a  
21 hospital at which a recipient is hospitalized or otherwise  
22 receiving health care services. To be eligible for medical  
23 assistance reimbursement:

24 (1) the costs must be incurred and paid during the

1 recipient's period of hospitalization or receipt of health care  
2 services by a parent, guardian, or caretaker of the recipient; and

3 (2) the recipient must:

4 (A) be younger than 18 years of age;

5 (B) have been diagnosed with a chronic illness  
6 designated by the executive commissioner; and

7 (C) be hospitalized or receiving health care  
8 services at the hospital for that chronic illness.

9 (c) The executive commissioner may require that a Medicaid  
10 managed care organization provide reimbursement under this section  
11 to a recipient who is enrolled in a Medicaid managed care plan  
12 offered by the organization.

13 (d) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary  
14 to implement this section, including rules:

15 (1) designating the diagnoses considered chronic  
16 illnesses for purposes of reimbursement under this section; and

17 (2) establishing reasonable limits on reimbursement  
18 amounts.

19 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
20 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
21 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
22 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
23 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
24 waiver or authorization is granted.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.