

By: Alvarado, et al.

S.B. No. 255

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the expansion of eligibility for Medicaid to certain
3 individuals under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable
4 Care Act.

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 32.02473 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 32.02473. EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
9 UNDER PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. (a)
10 Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall provide medical
11 assistance to all individuals who apply for that assistance and for
12 whom federal matching money is available under the Patient
13 Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. No. 111-148), as
14 amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010
15 (Pub. L. No. 111-152), to provide that assistance.

16 (b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules regarding
17 the provision of medical assistance as required by this section.

18 SECTION 2. Section 32.02473, Human Resources Code, as added
19 by this Act, applies only to an initial determination or
20 recertification of eligibility of an individual for medical
21 assistance under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, made on or after
22 the date the section is implemented, regardless of the date the
23 individual applied for that assistance.

24 SECTION 3. As soon as possible after the effective date of

1 this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
2 Services Commission shall take all necessary actions to expand
3 eligibility for medical assistance under Chapter 32, Human
4 Resources Code, in accordance with Section 32.02473, Human
5 Resources Code, as added by this Act, including notifying
6 appropriate federal agencies of that expanded eligibility.

7 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act
8 a state agency determines that any other waiver or authorization
9 from a federal agency is necessary for implementation of that
10 provision, the agency affected by the provision shall request the
11 waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision
12 until the waiver or authorization is granted.

13 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.