

- SUBJECT:** Nonsubstantive recodification of statutes in the Insurance Code
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Marchant, Madden, J. Davis, B. Cook, Elkins, Gattis, Goodman, Lewis
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Villarreal
- WITNESSES:** For — *(Registered, but did not testify:)* Mindy Carr, Texas Land Title Association
- Against — None
- On — Kelly Lowe, Texas Legislative Council; *(Registered, but did not testify:)* Deborah Fulton, Texas Legislative Council
- BACKGROUND:** Under Government Code, sec. 323.007, the Texas Legislative Council (TLC) must revise Texas statutes periodically to make them more accessible, understandable, and usable without altering their sense, meaning, or effect. As part of this process, the TLC reclassifies and rearranges statutes in a more logical order; employs a numbering system and format that will accommodate future expansion of the law; eliminates repealed, invalid, and duplicative provisions; and improves the draftsmanship of the law.
- The 76th Legislature in 1999 enacted the first installment of the recodification of the new Insurance Code in SB 1467 by Harris, effective September 1, 1999. The 77th Legislature in 2001 enacted the second installment, HB 2811 by Wolens, effective June 1, 2003.
- DIGEST:** HB 2922 would make nonsubstantive revisions to the Insurance Code by adding new titles and collecting and rearranging statutes involving:
- Texas Department of Insurance funds, fees, and taxes (new Title 3);
 - protection of consumer interests (new Title 5);

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- health coverage in general (Title 8, new subtitle A);
- group health coverage (Title 8, new subtitle B);
- managed care (Title 8, new subtitle C);
- preferred provider benefit plans (Title 8, new subtitle D);
- benefits payable under health coverages (Title 8, new subtitle E);
- physicians and health-care providers (Title 8, new subtitle F);
- health coverage availability (Title 8, new subtitle G);
- specialized health coverages (Title 8, new subtitle I);
- provisions applicable to life and health coverages (new Title 9);
- title insurance (new Title 11); and
- regulation of professionals (new Title 13).

HB 2922 would include conforming amendments to the existing Insurance Code, Titles 1, 2, and 6, and to provisions in other codes. It would repeal the laws to be revised and laws that had expired or that had an implied repeal. It would state legislative intent that HB 2922 is a nonsubstantive recodification authorized by Art. 3, sec. 43 of the Texas Constitution.

The bill would take effect April 1, 2005.

NOTES:

The companion bill, SB 1324 by Harris, has been referred to the Senate Administration Committee.

Revisions to statutes relating to health benefits and other coverages for governmental employees (Title 8, subtitle H) were part of HB 2811, enacted last session.