

- SUBJECT:** Continuing Medicaid eligibility for certain individuals
- COMMITTEE:** Human Services — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Raymond, Frank, Keough, Klick, Miller, Minjarez, Rose, Swanson, Wu
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Jeffrey Engelke, Premieant Inc., PACSTX; Melissa Rasco, CALAB, Inc., PACSTX; Carole Smith, Private Providers Association of Texas; Sandra Frizzell, Providers Alliance for Community Services of Texas; Kyle Piccola, The Arc of Texas; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Dennis Borel, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Gavin Massingill, Daybreak Group; Susan Murphree, Disability Rights Texas; Denise Rose and Richard Hernandez, ResCare, Inc.; Jennifer Allmon, Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops; Erin Lawler, Texas Council of Community Centers; James Thurston, United Ways of Texas)
- Against — None
- On — Gary Jessee, Health and Human Services Commission; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Jami Snyder, Health and Human Services Commission)
- BACKGROUND:** Human Resources Code, sec. 32.025 states that Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance and supplemental security income recipients automatically qualify for Medicaid.
- Concerns have been raised that temporary loss of Medicaid eligibility for certain individuals causes disenrollment from their managed care plan and deprives these individuals of essential medical services.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3292 would establish that a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance and supplemental security income recipient would continue to be eligible for Medicaid if the individual experienced a temporary increase in income for one month or less. The bill also would

require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to recertify these recipients as eligible for Medicaid if they were determined ineligible due to an error by the state or federal government or because the individual experienced a temporary increase in income for one month or less, provided they were otherwise eligible. HHSC would be required to recertify the individual within 90 days after the individual was determined ineligible or the error was discovered.

If an agency determined that a waiver or authorization from the federal government was necessary to implement the bill, the agency would request the waiver or authorization and could delay implementation until receiving it.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES:

A companion bill, SB 1132 by Hinojosa, was referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services on March 7.