

SUBJECT: Extending Medicaid eligibility to 12 months after the end of a pregnancy

COMMITTEE: Human Services — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Frank, Hinojosa, Deshotel, Klick, Meza, Miller, Rose

1 nay — Noble

1 absent — Clardy

WITNESSES: For — Moss Hampton, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Texas Medical Association, Texas Academy of Family Physicians, Texas Pediatric Society, Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Kaycee Crisp, Circle Up: United Methodist Women; Jill Ann Jarrell, Doctors for Change; Erika Galindo, Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity; Erica Giwa, Texas Children's Hospital; Erika Ramirez, Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition; Deneen Robinson, The Afiya Center; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Matt Simpson, ACLU of Texas; Cynthia Humphrey, Association of Substance Abuse Programs; Marisa Finley, Baylor Scott and White Health; Anne Dunkelberg, Center for Public Policy Priorities; Kelly Barnes, Central Health; Jo DePrang, Children's Defense Fund-Texas; Stacy Wilson, Children's Hospital Association of Texas; Linda Townsend, CHRISTUS Health; Tegra Swogger, Circle Up: United Methodist Women; Bill Kelly, City of Houston Mayor's Office; Priscilla Camacho, Dallas Regional Chamber; Roberto Haddad, Doctors Hospital at Renaissance; Lisa Flores, Easter Seals Central Texas; Aimee Bertrand, Harris County Commissioners Court; Leah Gonzalez, Healthy Futures of Texas; Lindsay Lanagan, Legacy Community Health; Nora Del Bosque, March of Dimes; Christine Yanas, Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.; Alissa Sughrue and Greg Hansch, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Texas; Eric Kunish, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Austin; Will Francis, National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter; Samantha Robles, Progress Texas; Maureen Milligan, Teaching Hospitals of Texas; Adriana Kohler, Texans Care for Children; Marshall Kenderdine, Texas Academy of Family Physicians; Mimi Garcia, Texas Association of Community

Health Centers; Laurie Vangoose, Texas Association of Health Plans; Kathryn Freeman, Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission; Jennifer Biundo, Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy; Reginald Smith, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition; Carisa Lopez, Texas Freedom Network; Clayton Travis, Texas Pediatric Society; Pamela McPeters, TexProtects, Prevent Child Abuse America-Texas Chapter; Jennifer Allmon, The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops; Alexis Tatum, Travis County Commissioners Court; Nataly Saucedo, United Ways of Texas; and 17 individuals)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Ronda McCauley)

On — Manda Hall and Jeremy Triplett, Department of State Health Services; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Gina Carter, Kelly Garcia, and Stephanie Stephens, Health and Human Services Commission; Emma Cager)

**BACKGROUND:** Some have noted that potentially preventable maternal deaths can occur after 60 days postpartum, at which point women who were eligible for Medicaid coverage are no longer required to be covered under federal law.

**DIGEST:** HB 744 would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to continue to provide health benefits to women who were eligible for medical assistance for pregnant women for at least 12 months following a delivery or involuntary miscarriage.

If a state agency determined that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency was necessary to implement a provision of the bill, the agency would be required to request the waiver and would be permitted to delay implementation of the provision until the waiver or authorization was granted.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

**NOTES:** According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would have a negative impact of about \$75 million to general revenue related funds through

fiscal 2020-21.