

SUBJECT:	Conducting a study on Medicaid coverage for certain infants
COMMITTEE:	Human Services — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	8 ayes — Frank, Rose, Campos, Hull, Klick, Manuel, Noble, Ramos  0 nays  1 absent — Shaheen
WITNESSES:	<p>For — Alec Mendoza, Texans Care for Children (<i>Registered, but did not testify</i>); Jacquie Benestante, Autism Society of Texas; Stacey Pogue, Every Texan; Adrienne Ryholt, Rebecca Galinsky, Protect TX Fragile Kids; Anna Sciarillo, Texas Association of Behavior Analysis Public Policy Group; Daniela De Luna, Texas Association of Community Health Centers; Jill Sutton, Texas Osteopathic Medical Association; Clayton Travis, Texas Pediatric Society; Kerrie Judice, TexProtects; Ashley Ford, The Arc of Texas; Laura Atlas Kravitz, Texas Women’s Foundation; Thomas Parkinson)</p> <p>Against — None</p>
BACKGROUND:	Concerns have been raised that infants eligible for Medicaid may not always be provided coverage.
DIGEST:	<p>HB 4253 would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to conduct a study to assess its compliance with federal guidelines and requirements on the required coverage of certain infants under Medicaid. In conducting the study, HHSC would examine whether or the extent to which it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• required by rule and provided Medicaid coverage to an infant born in the state to Medicaid recipients;</li><li>• ensured that the infant remained eligible until the infant was at least one year old, except under certain circumstances;</li><li>• conducted an eligibility redetermination before the infant turned</li></ul>

- one; and
- required certain other information and processes related to the infant's eligibility.

By September 1, 2024, HHSC would be required to submit a report to the governor, lieutenant governor, the speaker of the House, and the Legislature that summarized the results and provided legislative recommendations on how to improve coverage rates and related requirements for infants eligible for Medicaid.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would expire September 1, 2025.