

By: West

S.B. No. 1524

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of certain foster care adolescents and former foster care adolescents for benefits under the Medicaid program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 32.0247, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Subsections (g) and (h) to read as follows:

(g) The department shall ensure that an independent foster care adolescent who is otherwise eligible is automatically enrolled in an appropriate medical assistance program, including a waiver program established under Section 1915(c) of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1396n(c)), once the adolescent is no longer eligible for the program under this section.

(h) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section and any other law and to the extent permitted under federal law, the department shall provide medical assistance to:

(1) an adolescent in foster care in this state who did not reside in this state on the date of the adolescent's 18th birthday but who is otherwise eligible for assistance under this section; and

(2) a person who was formerly in foster care under the supervision of the Department of Family and Protective Services through an agreement under the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children under Subchapter B, Chapter 162, Family Code, until the

1 person's 26th birthday.

2 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
3 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
4 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
5 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
6 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
7 waiver or authorization is granted.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.