

1 section, "covered service" means a dental care service for which
2 reimbursement is available under a patient's employee benefit plan
3 or health insurance policy, or for which reimbursement is available
4 subject to a contractual limitation, including:

- 5 (1) a deductible;
- 6 (2) a copayment;
- 7 (3) coinsurance;
- 8 (4) a waiting period;
- 9 (5) an annual or lifetime maximum limit;
- 10 (6) a frequency limitation; or
- 11 (7) an alternative benefit payment.

12 (b) A contract between an insurer and a dentist may not
13 limit the fee the dentist may charge for a service that is not a
14 covered service.

15 SECTION 3. Sections 843.3115 and 1451.2065, Insurance Code,
16 as added by this Act, apply only to a contract entered into or
17 renewed on or after the effective date of this Act. A contract
18 entered into or renewed before the effective date of this Act is
19 governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
20 of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

S.B. No. 554

David Newkumst
President of the Senate

Joe Straus
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 554 passed the Senate on April 14, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Patryk Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 554 passed the House on May 23, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

17 JUN '11
Date

RICK PERRY
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
O'CLOCK

W. Scott Brown
JUN 17 2011
Secretary of State