



CHARLES PERRY
TEXAS STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 28

December 11, 2019

Dr. Courtney Phillips
Commissioner
Texas Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 13247
Austin, TX 78711-3247

Attn: Stephanie Muth
Deputy Executive Commissioner
Medicaid & CHIP Services

Dear Commissioner Phillips:

I am writing you today as the lead author of Senate Bill 1207 to encourage you to follow one of our principal legislative goals in enacting this important bill. We distilled one of our most important overall legislative goals into Section 6 of Senate Bill 1207, drafting Sec. 533.038 (g) in clear and unambiguous terms. I urge the Commission to quickly “develop a clear and easy process...that allows a recipient with complex medical needs who has established a relationship with a specialty provider to continue receiving care from that provider.”

Our overall intent in enacting Senate Bill 1207 was to ensure continuity of care and services for medically fragile children whose cases are highly complex and specialized. We sought to achieve this important goal while preserving maximum usage of primary commercial coverage in order to save money for Texas taxpayers while simultaneously ensuring that the network of service and equipment providers was always adequate to meet the needs of the medically fragile Medicaid eligible population of children in Texas.

This is why it is so important that the Health and Human Services Commission quickly “develop a clear and easy process...that allows a recipient with complex medical needs who has established a relationship with a specialty provider to continue receiving care from that provider.” We want to ensure that none of these children experience a gap in the receipt of their services or equipment from a provider they know and trust based on their existing relationship.

Sincerely,

Senator Charles Perry