

- SUBJECT:** Creating a certain measure for CHIP and Medicaid regarding HIV
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Price, Sheffield, Arévalo, Burkett, Cortez, Guerra, Klick, Oliverson, Zedler
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Coleman, Collier
- WITNESSES:** For — Januari Leo, Legacy Community Health; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Anne Dunkelberg, Center for Public Policy Priorities; Reginald Smith, Communities for Recovery; Bill Kelly, City of Houston Mayor's Office; Marilyn Doyle, Texas Medical Association; Thomas Parkinson)
- Against — None
- On — Janna Zumbrun, Department of State Health Services; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Andy Vasquez, Health and Human Services Commission)
- BACKGROUND:** Some suggest that it is important for people living with HIV to maintain a low viral load in their blood in order to reduce transmission and improve health.
- DIGEST:** HB 1629 would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to coordinate with the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to develop and implement a quality-based outcome measure to annually measure the percentage of Children's Health Insurance Program enrollees or Medicaid recipients with HIV infection, regardless of age, whose most recent test indicates a viral load of less than 200 copies per milliliter of blood.
- HHSC and DSHS would be required to implement the measure as soon as practicable.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES:

A companion bill, SB 2126 by Zaffirini, was referred to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee on March 28.