86RXXXX

By:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ H.B. No XXXX

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to and benefits for mental health conditions and substance use disorders.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1368, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT

Sec. 1368.051. MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS. (a) All issuers that offer individual or group health benefit plans that provide prescription drug benefits chemical dependency shall not impose any prior authorization requirements on any prescription medication approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of chemical dependency.

 (b) All issuers that offer individual or group health benefit plans that provide prescription drug benefits chemical dependency shall not impose any step therapy requirements before the issuer will authorize coverage for a prescription medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of chemical dependency.

 (c) All issuers that offer individual or group health benefit plans that provide prescription drug benefits chemical dependency shall place all prescription medications approved by the FDA for the treatment of chemical dependency on the lowest tier of the drug formulary developed and maintained by the issuer.

 (d) All issuers that offer individual or group health benefit plans that provide prescription drug benefits chemical dependency shall not exclude coverage for any prescription medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of chemical dependency and any associated counseling or wraparound services on the grounds that such medications and services were court ordered.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.