

SENATE BILL NO. 100

INTRODUCED BY D. GRIMES

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT FOR A HEALTH CARE DATABASE; ELIMINATING THE DEFINITION OF THE TERMINATED "HEALTH CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL"; AMENDING SECTIONS 50-4-312, 50-4-504, AND 50-4-505, MCA; REPEALING SECTION 50-4-502, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 50-4-312, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-4-312. Consumer report cards. (1) The Montana health care advisory council shall appoint a task force of consumers, employers, health insurers, hospitals, health care providers, and legislators to design a consumer report card that will enhance consumer responsibility in the use of health care services.

(2) The Montana health care advisory council shall, by October 1, 1996, submit the task force's proposal to the legislature containing the information needed to prepare the consumer report card. The information must include:

(a) uniform data, including charges, that will enable consumers to evaluate the cost of medical procedures;

(b) data about insurance plans, such as benefit and cost provisions; and

(c) additional information that may assist consumers in making informed choices about their medical care; ~~and~~

~~——— (d) any further applicable information generated as a result of efforts undertaken pursuant to 50-4-502.~~

(3) The Montana health care advisory council shall also develop standards for uniform data to be provided by health insurers, hospitals, and health care providers and shall take into account the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of the standards.

(4) To the extent possible, data collected for the consumer report card must be provided by data sources that currently exist."

Section 2. Section 50-4-504, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-4-504. Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

~~(1) "Database" means the health care database created pursuant to 50-4-502.~~

~~(2)(1) "Department" means the department of public health and human services provided for in Title 2, chapter 15, part 22.~~

~~(3)(2) "Health care" includes both physical health care and mental health care.~~

~~(4) "Health care advisory council" means the council provided for in 50-4-103, 50-4-104, 50-4-203 through 50-4-206, and 50-4-403.~~

~~(5)(3) "Health care facility" means all facilities and institutions, whether public or private, proprietary or nonprofit, that offer diagnosis, treatment, and inpatient or ambulatory care to two or more unrelated persons. The term includes all facilities and institutions included in the definition of health care facility contained in 50-5-101. The term does not apply to a facility operated by religious groups relying solely on spiritual means, through prayer, for healing.~~

~~(6)(4) "Health care provider" or "provider" means a person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to provide health care in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession.~~

~~(7)(5) "Health insurer" means any health insurance company, health service corporation, health maintenance organization, insurer providing disability insurance as described in 33-1-207, and, to the extent permitted under federal law, any administrator of an insured, self-insured, or publicly funded health care benefit plan offered by public and private entities."~~

Section 3. Section 50-4-505, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-4-505. Uniform claim forms and procedures. The commissioner of insurance, ~~after consultation with the health care advisory council,~~ may adopt by rule uniform health insurance claim forms and uniform standards and procedures for the use of the forms and processing of claims, including the submission of claims by means of an electronic claims processing system."

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Repealer.** Section 50-4-502, MCA, is repealed.

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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