

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to engage a select group of stakeholders in the field of dental care concerning the prospective establishment of an independent claims review process for dental services provided through the Medicaid managed care program, and to make recommendations relative to that process to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, in an effort to achieve greater efficiency in the administration of Medicaid benefits, the state has contracted the administration of those benefits to private managed care organizations that function in substantially the same manner as private insurance companies, health maintenance organizations, and like entities; and

WHEREAS, the state clearly recognizes the need for independent, objective processes for resolving claims disputes between healthcare providers and private insurers which offer healthcare benefits, as evidenced by the legislature having enacted laws establishing such processes for health insurance issuers in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has clearly recognized the need for an independent, objective process for resolving disputes over Medicaid claims by finally passing House Bill No. 492 of this 2017 Regular Session, referred to hereafter as "HB 492"; and

WHEREAS, HB 492 has been enrolled and, upon taking effect, will establish such an independent review process for resolving disputes over Medicaid claims between most classes of healthcare providers and the managed care organizations known collectively as the "Healthy Louisiana" plans; however, the bill specifically excludes from those processes disputes over dental care claims between dentists and Medicaid managed care organizations; and

WHEREAS, the intent of excluding dental claims from the provisions of HB 492 was to allow for the establishment of a separate independent review process for resolving disputes pertaining to Medicaid dental claims that would be better suited to the unique aspects of dental benefits administration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to engage a group of stakeholders in the field of dental care including, without limitation, the following parties, and to collaborate with these stakeholders to study and make recommendations concerning the prospective establishment of an independent review process for claims for dental services provided through the Medicaid managed care program:

- (1) Representatives of any managed care organization contracted with the state to administer dental benefits within the Medicaid program.
- (2) Representatives of the Louisiana Dental Association.
- (3) Representatives of the Louisiana Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.
- (4) Representatives of the School of Dentistry of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall develop a report concerning the prospective establishment of an independent review process for claims for dental services provided through the Medicaid managed care program, and shall submit the report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before March 1, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Association of Health Plans, the executive director of the Louisiana Dental Association, the president of the Louisiana Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE