
DIGEST

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HB 198 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Echols

Abstract: Provides for Medicaid reimbursement for certain gastroenterology, otolaryngology, and ophthalmology procedures performed in ambulatory surgery centers.

Proposed law requires the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to take all necessary actions to implement a plan to reimburse ambulatory surgery centers described by proposed law.

Proposed law provides that gastroenterology, otolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat), and ophthalmology procedures performed at an ambulatory surgery center shall be reimbursed by Medicaid at a rate equal to the rate paid in an outpatient hospital setting or 100% of the Medicare rate, whichever is less.

Proposed law requires LDH to promulgate all necessary rules and regulations to implement proposed law.

Proposed law directs LDH to implement proposed law by Oct. 1, 2026.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 46:452)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Add additional procedures and surgeries that would be eligible for a modified reimbursement rate in accordance with proposed law.
2. Provides for the reimbursement rate for certain procedures performed at an ambulatory surgery center.

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove dental surgery procedures from proposed law.