
DIGEST

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HB 198 Original

2024 Regular Session

Echols

Abstract: Provides for the adoption of a medical fee reimbursement schedule for workers' compensation claims.

Present law provides that the assistant secretary of the office of workers' compensation administration, (assistant secretary) shall establish and promulgate a reimbursement schedule for drugs, supplies, and certain care, services, and treatments that are lawfully recognized in this state and which are applicable to any person or corporation who renders these drugs, supplies, care, services, or treatments.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the reimbursement schedule shall include charges limited to the mean of the usual and customary charges for such care, services, treatment, drugs, and supplies. Present law further provides that any necessary adjustments to the reimbursement schedule may be made annually.

Proposed law repeals present law and instead clarifies that the reimbursement schedule shall include charges limited to the amount that would be due under Medicare times a multiplier of one and one-half, or the actual charge made for the service, whichever is less.

Present law provides that the assistant secretary shall have the authority to collect the information and data necessary to calculate the reimbursement schedule. Present law further provides the guidelines for collecting the required information and data.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law requires that all the collected information be considered confidential and privileged and prohibits such information from being subject to public record and subpoena. Present law further requires the assistant secretary, all employees of the office of workers' compensation, and an academic institution to strictly maintain such confidentiality and exclusively use the collected information for the purpose of promulgating the workers' compensation reimbursement schedule.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 23:1034.2(A) and (C)(1); Repeals R.S. 23:1034.2(C)(2) and (3))