

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 626 (HB 198)

2026 Regular Session

Echols

New 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 in the manner described by new law.

New law requires gastroenterology, otolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat), dental, and dental ophthalmology procedures performed at an ambulatory surgery center 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.

New law requires LDH to update the reimbursement rates for gastroenterology, dental, ophthalmology, and otolaryngology procedures annually in accordance with procedures established by new law.

New law requires LDH to include applicable billing codes and estimated implementation costs in the plan and to submit the plan to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance by Oct. 1, 2026.

New law requires LDH to promulgate all necessary rules and regulations to implement new law.

New law directs LDH to implement new law by Oct. 1, 2026.

New law provides that implementation of new law is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 2, 2026).

(Adds R.S. 46:452)