DIGEST

HB 257 Original   2015 Regular Session   Seabaugh

Abstract: Provides with respect to credentialing, the process of assessing and validating the qualifications of healthcare providers applying to be approved by a health insurance issuer to provide healthcare services to the health insurance issuer's enrollees or insureds.

Proposed law changes present law authorizing health insurance issuers to require healthcare providers to be credentialed, as follows:

(1)   Changes the definition of a "health care provider" to specifically include a dentist licensed to practice dentistry by the La. State Board of Dentistry.

(2)   Changes the definition of a "health insurance issuer" to specifically include a dental benefit plan, including an entity defined as a dental service contractor in present law.

(3)   Provides that once a provider has been credentialed by a health insurance issuer for any location in the state, that provider shall be considered credentialed for all locations at which that provider may legally practice medicine or dentistry in this state. States that it is necessary only that the credentialed provider give the issuer written notice of any additional location of practice beyond the primary practice location and any additional practice location originally noted on the provider's initial credentialing application form. Prohibits any requirement that the provider be recredentialed for such additional locations. Further provides that the credentialing for any additional location shall be effective immediately upon receipt by the issuer of written notice from the provider.

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

(Amends R.S. 22:1009(A)(5) and (7); Adds R.S. 22:1009(B)(5))