

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 324

BY REPRESENTATIVE ECHOLS

MEDICAID: Sets standards for Medicaid reimbursement rates for primary care services

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Subpart B-1 of Part I of Chapter 5-E of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes
3 of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:1244.1 and 1244.2, relative to the medical
4 assistance program of this state known commonly as Medicaid; to provide for duties
5 of the Louisiana Department of Health in administering the state Medicaid program;
6 to provide relative to Medicaid reimbursement rates paid for delivery of certain
7 health services; to establish minimum standards for Medicaid rates paid for primary
8 care; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. Subpart B-1 of Part I of Chapter 5-E of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised
11 Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 40:1244.1 and 1244.2, is hereby enacted to read as
12 follows:

13 SUBPART B-1. PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER RATES

14 §1244.1. Definitions

15 As used in this Subpart, the following terms have the meaning ascribed to
16 them in this Section:

17 (1) "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Health.

18 (2) "Medicaid" means the medical assistance program provided for in Title
19 XIX of the Social Security Act.

1 (3) "Medicare" means the federal health insurance program provided for in
2 Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

3 (4) "Primary care" means routine healthcare services delivered by clinicians
4 who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal healthcare needs,
5 developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of
6 family and community. "Primary care" includes, without limitation, screening,
7 assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for the purpose of promoting a person's health
8 and detecting and managing a person's disease or injury.

9 §1244.2. Primary care provider rates; rulemaking

10 A. In administering the Medicaid program of this state, the department shall
11 ensure that Medicaid reimbursement rates paid to the following types of healthcare
12 providers for delivery of primary care services are at least equal to the provider
13 reimbursement rates paid by Medicare for those services:

14 (1) Physicians.

15 (2) Physician assistants.

16 (3) Advanced practice registered nurses.

17 B. The department shall promulgate all such rules in accordance with the
18 Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to implement the provisions of this

19 Subpart.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 324 Original

2020 Regular Session

Echols

Abstract: Requires that Medicaid rates paid to physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice registered nurses for primary care services be at least equal to the Medicare rates for those services.

Proposed law requires that in administering the Medicaid program of this state, the La. Department of Health (LDH) shall ensure that Medicaid reimbursement rates paid to the following types of healthcare providers for delivery of primary care services are at least equal to the provider reimbursement rates paid by Medicare for those services:

(1) Physicians.

- (2) Physician assistants.
- (3) Advanced practice registered nurses.

Proposed law provides that, for its purposes, "primary care" means routine healthcare services delivered by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal healthcare needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community. Provides that "primary care" includes, without limitation, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for the purpose of promoting a person's health and detecting and managing a person's disease or injury.

Proposed law requires LDH to promulgate all such administrative rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 40:1244.1 and 1244.2)