

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 190

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

MEDICAID. Provides for Medicaid reimbursement rate increases. (8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:460.76.1, relative to Medicaid reimbursement rate increases; to provide for
3 a plan for physicians to be reimbursed at one hundred percent of Medicare rates; to
4 provide for approval and appropriation prior to implementation; and to provide for
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 46:460.76.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§460.76.1. Medicaid physician reimbursement plan; Medicare rate**
9 **comparability**

10 **A.(1) The Louisiana Department of Health shall develop a plan for**
11 **increased Medicaid managed care organization reimbursement rates and fee-**
12 **for-service reimbursement rates to physicians at one hundred percent of**
13 **Medicare rates. The plan shall be implemented starting with Fiscal Year 2025-**
14 **2026 and shall include incremental rate increases, no less than annually, to**
15 **achieve full Medicare rate comparability no later than Fiscal Year 2027-2028.**

16 **(2) In developing the plan required by this Section, the department shall**
17 **prioritize physician provided primary care, obstetric care, non-specialty mental**

1 health, substance use disorder, family planning, and women's health services.

2 (3) The plan shall include Medicaid reimbursement rates for service
3 rates of one hundred percent of the Medicare rate for procedure codes utilized
4 for evaluation and management for primary care and specialty office visits,
5 preventative services, care management, obstetric services, and non-specialty
6 mental health services beginning in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and increasing
7 incrementally through Fiscal Year 2027-2028.

8 (4) The department shall calculate an equivalent rate increase for
9 physician services that do not have a rate established by Medicare.

10 B. The plan shall include procedure codes identified as physician
11 primary care or general care to be reimbursed to physicians at the rate
12 established pursuant to this Section.

13 C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prevent the department
14 from doing any of the following:

15 (1) Achieving Medicare rate comparability earlier than Fiscal Year
16 2027-2028 if funding is available.

17 (2) Including other Medicaid provider types in the department's
18 Medicare rate comparability plan after physicians obtain Medicare rate
19 comparability if funding is available.

20 (3) Continuing to provide physicians with supplemental payments in
21 accordance with the department's physician upper payment limit, full Medicaid
22 pricing payment program as approved by the Centers for Medicare and
23 Medicaid Services.

24 D. The department shall complete the plan required by this Section in
25 time to begin providing increased payments to physicians in Fiscal Year 2025-
26 2026. Implementation of the plan shall be subject to any necessary approval by
27 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and appropriation by the
28 legislature.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Amanda Trapp.

| | DIGEST | |
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| SB 190 Engrossed | 2024 Regular Session | Boudreaux |

Proposed law requires the Louisiana Department of Health to develop an incremental plan to pay physicians 100% of the Medicare rate by Fiscal Year 2027-2028.

Proposed law provides for approval of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, if necessary, and appropriation by the legislature.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 46:460.76.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Limits applicable providers to physicians.
2. Changes the implementation date and provides for an incremental increase.