State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 99

01/09/2017 Authored by Schomacker
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Reform
01/11/2017 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A bill for an act

relating to health; modifying requirements for health maintenance organizations; modifying provisions governing health insurance; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 60A.08, subdivision 15; 62D.02, subdivision 4; 62D.03, subdivision 1; 62D.05, subdivision 1; 62D.06, subdivision 1; 62D.19; 62E.02, subdivision 3; 62L.12, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62Q; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 62D.12, subdivision 9; 62K.11.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 60A.08, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

Subd. 15. **Classification of insurance filings data.** (a) All forms, rates, and related information filed with the commissioner under section 61A.02 shall be nonpublic data until the filing becomes effective.

(b) All forms, rates, and related information filed with the commissioner under section 62A.02 shall be nonpublic data until the filing becomes effective.

(c) All forms, rates, and related information filed with the commissioner under section 62C.14, subdivision 10, shall be nonpublic data until the filing becomes effective.

(d) All forms, rates, and related information filed with the commissioner under section 70A.06 shall be nonpublic data until the filing becomes effective.

(e) All forms, rates, and related information filed with the commissioner under section 79.56 shall be nonpublic data until the filing becomes effective.

(f) Notwithstanding paragraphs (b) and (c), for all rate increases subject to review under section 2794 of the Public Health Services Act and any amendments to, or regulations, or

guidance issued under the act that are filed with the commissioner on or after September 1, 2011, the commissioner:

(1) may acknowledge receipt of the information;

(2) may acknowledge that the corresponding rate filing is pending review;

(3) must provide public access from the Department of Commerce's Web site to parts I and II of the Preliminary Justifications of the rate increases subject to review; and

(4) must provide notice to the public on the Department of Commerce's Web site of the review of the proposed rate, which must include a statement that the public has 30 calendar days to submit written comments to the commissioner on the rate filing subject to review.

(g) Notwithstanding paragraphs (b) and (c), for all rates for individual health plans, as defined in section 62A.011, subdivision 4, and small group health plans, as defined in section 62K.03, subdivision 12, the commissioner must provide:

(1) public access to the information described in clause (2) from the Department of Commerce's Web site within ten days of receiving a rate filing from a health carrier, as defined in section 62A.011, subdivision 2; and

(2) compiled data of the proposed change to rates separated by health plan and geographic rating area.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective 30 days following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Health maintenance organization.** ~~(a)~~ "Health maintenance organization" means a ~~nonprofit~~ foreign or domestic corporation ~~organized under chapter 317A~~, or a local governmental unit as defined in subdivision 11, controlled and operated as provided in sections 62D.01 to 62D.30, which provides, either directly or through arrangements with providers or other persons, comprehensive health maintenance services, or arranges for the provision of these services, to enrollees on the basis of a fixed prepaid sum without regard to the frequency or extent of services furnished to any particular enrollee.

~~(b) [Expired]~~

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Certificate of authority required.** Notwithstanding any law of this state to the contrary, any ~~nonprofit~~ foreign or domestic corporation organized to do so or a local governmental unit may apply to the commissioner of health for a certificate of authority to establish and operate a health maintenance organization in compliance with sections 62D.01 to 62D.30. No person shall establish or operate a health maintenance organization in this state, nor sell or offer to sell, or solicit offers to purchase or receive advance or periodic consideration in conjunction with a health maintenance organization or health maintenance contract unless the organization has a certificate of authority under sections 62D.01 to 62D.30.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Authority granted.** Any ~~nonprofit~~ corporation or local governmental unit may, upon obtaining a certificate of authority as required in sections 62D.01 to 62D.30, operate as a health maintenance organization.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.06, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Governing body composition; enrollee advisory body.** The governing body of any health maintenance organization which is a ~~nonprofit~~ corporation may include enrollees, providers, or other individuals; provided, however, that after a health maintenance organization which is a ~~nonprofit~~ corporation has been authorized under sections 62D.01 to 62D.30 for one year, at least 40 percent of the governing body shall be composed of enrollees and members elected by the enrollees and members from among the enrollees and members. For purposes of this section, "member" means a consumer who receives health care services through a self-insured contract that is administered by the health maintenance organization or its related third-party administrator. The number of members elected to the governing body shall not exceed the number of enrollees elected to the governing body. An enrollee or member elected to the governing board may not be a person:

(1) whose occupation involves, or before retirement involved, the administration of health activities or the provision of health services;

(2) who is or was employed by a health care facility as a licensed health professional; or

(3) who has or had a direct substantial financial or managerial interest in the rendering of a health service, other than the payment of a reasonable expense reimbursement or compensation as a member of the board of a health maintenance organization.

After a health maintenance organization which is a local governmental unit has been authorized under sections 62D.01 to 62D.30 for one year, an enrollee advisory body shall be established. The enrollees who make up this advisory body shall be elected by the enrollees from among the enrollees.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.19, is amended to read:

62D.19 UNREASONABLE EXPENSES.

No health maintenance organization shall incur or pay for any expense of any nature which is unreasonably high in relation to the value of the service or goods provided. The commissioner of health shall implement and enforce this section by rules adopted under this section.

In an effort to achieve the stated purposes of sections 62D.01 to 62D.30~~; in order to safeguard the underlying nonprofit status of health maintenance organizations;~~ and to ensure that the payment of health maintenance organization money to major participating entities results in a corresponding benefit to the health maintenance organization and its enrollees, when determining whether an organization has incurred an unreasonable expense in relation to a major participating entity, due consideration shall be given to, in addition to any other appropriate factors, whether the officers and trustees of the health maintenance organization have acted with good faith and in the best interests of the health maintenance organization in entering into, and performing under, a contract under which the health maintenance organization has incurred an expense. The commissioner has standing to sue, on behalf of a health maintenance organization, officers or trustees of the health maintenance organization who have breached their fiduciary duty in entering into and performing such contracts.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62E.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Health maintenance organization.** "Health maintenance organization" means a ~~nonprofit~~ corporation licensed and operated as provided in chapter 62D.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62L.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** (a) A health carrier may renew individual conversion policies to eligible employees otherwise eligible for conversion coverage under section 62D.104 as a result of leaving a health maintenance organization's service area.

(b) A health carrier may renew individual conversion policies to eligible employees otherwise eligible for conversion coverage as a result of the expiration of any continuation of group coverage required under sections 62A.146, 62A.17, 62A.21, 62C.142, 62D.101, and 62D.105.

(c) A health carrier may renew conversion policies to eligible employees.

(d) A health carrier may sell, issue, or renew individual continuation policies to eligible employees as required.

(e) A health carrier may sell, issue, or renew individual health plans if the coverage is appropriate due to an unexpired preexisting condition limitation or exclusion applicable to the person under the employer's group health plan or due to the person's need for health care services not covered under the employer's group health plan.

(f) A health carrier may sell, issue, or renew an individual health plan, if the individual has elected to buy the individual health plan not as part of a general plan to substitute individual health plans for a group health plan nor as a result of any violation of subdivision 3 or 4.

(g) A health carrier may sell, issue, or renew an individual health plan if coverage provided by the employer is determined to be unaffordable under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act as defined in section 62A.011, subdivision 1a.

(h) Nothing in this subdivision relieves a health carrier of any obligation to provide continuation or conversion coverage otherwise required under federal or state law.

(i) Nothing in this chapter restricts the offer, sale, issuance, or renewal of coverage issued as a supplement to Medicare under sections 62A.3099 to 62A.44, or policies or contracts that supplement Medicare issued by health maintenance organizations, or those contracts governed by sections 1833, 1851 to 1859, 1860D, or 1876 of the federal Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, section 1395 et seq., as amended.

(j) Nothing in this chapter restricts the offer, sale, issuance, or renewal of individual health plans necessary to comply with a court order.

(k) A health carrier may offer, issue, sell, or renew an individual health plan to persons eligible for an employer group health plan, if the individual health plan is a high deductible health plan for use in connection with an existing health savings account, in compliance with the Internal Revenue Code, section 223. In that situation, the same or a different health carrier may offer, issue, sell, or renew a group health plan to cover the other eligible employees in the group.

(l) A health carrier may offer, sell, issue, or renew an individual health plan to one or more employees of a small employer if the individual health plan is marketed directly to all employees of the small employer and the small employer does not contribute directly or indirectly to the premiums or facilitate the administration of the individual health plan. The requirement to market an individual health plan to all employees does not require the health carrier to offer or issue an individual health plan to any employee. For purposes of this paragraph, an employer is not contributing to the premiums or facilitating the administration of the individual health plan if the employer does not contribute to the premium and merely collects the premiums from an employee's wages or salary through payroll deductions and submits payment for the premiums of one or more employees in a lump sum to the health carrier. Except for coverage under section 62A.65, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), at the request of an employee, the health carrier may bill the employer for the premiums payable by the employee, provided that the employer is not liable for payment except from payroll deductions for that purpose. If an employer is submitting payments under this paragraph, the health carrier shall provide a cancellation notice directly to the primary insured at least ten days prior to termination of coverage for nonpayment of premium. Individual coverage under this paragraph may be offered only if the small employer has not provided coverage under section 62L.03 to the employees within the past 12 months.

(m) A health carrier may offer, sell, issue, or renew an individual health plan to one or more employees of a small employer if the small employer, eligible employee, and individual health plan are in compliance with the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. **[62Q.556] UNAUTHORIZED PROVIDER SERVICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Unauthorized provider services.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (c), unauthorized provider services occur when an enrollee receives services:

(1) from a nonparticipating provider at a participating hospital or ambulatory surgical center, when the services are rendered:

(i) due to the unavailability of a participating provider;

(ii) by a nonparticipating provider without the enrollee's knowledge; or

(iii) due to the need for unforeseen services arising at the time the services are being rendered;

(2) from a nonparticipating provider in a participating provider's practice setting under circumstances not described in clause (1);

(3) from a participating provider that sends a specimen taken from the enrollee in the participating provider's practice setting to a nonparticipating laboratory, pathologist, or other medical testing facility; or

(4) not described in clause (3) that are performed by a nonparticipating provider, if a referral for the services is required by the health plan.

(b) Unauthorized provider services do not include emergency services as defined in section 62Q.55, subdivision 3.

(c) The services described in paragraph (a), clauses (2) to (4), are not unauthorized provider services if the enrollee gives advance written consent to the provider acknowledging that the use of a provider, or the services to be rendered, may result in costs not covered by the health plan.

Subd. 2. **Prohibition.** An enrollee must have the same cost-sharing requirements for unauthorized provider services, including co-payments, deductibles, coinsurance, coverage restrictions, and coverage limitations as those applicable to services received by the enrollee from a participating provider.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective 30 days following final enactment and applies to provider services provided on or after that date.

Sec. 10. **[62Q.557] BALANCE BILLING PROHIBITED.**

A participating provider is prohibited from billing an enrollee for any amount in excess of the allowable amount the health plan company has contracted for with the provider as total payment for the health care services. A participating provider is permitted to bill an enrollee the approved co-payment, deductible, or coinsurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2017, and applies to health plans offered, issued, or renewed to a Minnesota resident on or after that date.

Sec. 11. **TRANSITION OF CARE COVERAGE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2017; INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF COVERAGE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Enrollee" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 62Q.01, subdivision 2b.

(c) "Health plan" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 62Q.01, subdivision 3.

(d) "Health plan company" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 62Q.01, subdivision 4.

(e) "Individual market" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 62A.011, subdivision 5.

(f) "Involuntary termination of coverage" means the termination of a health plan due to a health plan company's refusal to renew the health plan in the individual market because the health plan company elects to cease offering individual market health plans in all or some geographic rating areas of the state.

Subd. 2. **Application.** This section applies to an enrollee who is subject to a change in health plans in the individual market due to an involuntary termination of coverage from a health plan in the individual market after October 31, 2016, and before January 1, 2017, and who enrolls in a new health plan in the individual market for all or a portion of calendar year 2017 that goes into effect after December 31, 2016, and before March 2, 2017.

Subd. 3. **Change in health plans; transition of care coverage.** (a) If an enrollee satisfies the criteria in subdivision 2, the enrollee's new health plan company must provide, upon request of the enrollee or the enrollee's health care provider, authorization to receive services that are otherwise covered under the terms of the enrollee's calendar year 2017 health plan from a provider who provided care on an in-network basis to the enrollee during calendar year 2016 but who is out of network in the enrollee's calendar year 2017 health plan:

(1) for up to 120 days if the enrollee has received a diagnosis of, or is engaged in a current course of treatment for, one or more of the following conditions:

(i) an acute condition;

(ii) a life-threatening mental or physical illness;

(iii) pregnancy beyond the first trimester of pregnancy;

(iv) a physical or mental disability defined as an inability to engage in one or more major life activities, provided the disability has lasted or can be expected to last for at least one year or can be expected to result in death; or

(v) a disabling or chronic condition that is in an acute phase; or

(2) for the rest of the enrollee's life if a physician certifies that the enrollee has an expected lifetime of 180 days or less.

(b) For all requests for authorization under this subdivision, the health plan company must grant the request for authorization unless the enrollee does not meet the criteria in paragraph (a) or subdivision 2.

(c) The commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget must reimburse the enrollee's new health plan company for costs attributed to services authorized under this subdivision. Costs eligible for reimbursement under this paragraph are the difference between the health plan company's reimbursement rate for in-network providers for a service authorized under this subdivision and its rate for out-of-network providers for the service. The health plan company must seek reimbursement from the commissioner for costs attributed to services authorized under this subdivision, in a form and manner mutually agreed upon by the commissioner and the affected health plan companies. Total state reimbursements to health plan companies under this paragraph are subject to the limits of the available appropriation. In the event that funding for reimbursements to health plan companies is not sufficient to fully reimburse health plan companies for the costs attributed to services authorized under this subdivision, health plan companies must continue to cover services authorized under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Limitations.** (a) Subdivision 3 applies only if the enrollee's health care provider agrees to:

(1) accept as payment in full the lesser of:

(i) the health plan company's reimbursement rate for in-network providers for the same or similar service; or

(ii) the provider's regular fee for that service;

(2) request authorization for services in the form and manner specified by the enrollee's new health plan company, if the provider chooses to request authorization; and

(3) provide the enrollee's new health plan company with all necessary medical information related to the care provided to the enrollee.

(b) Nothing in this section requires a health plan company to provide coverage for a health care service or treatment that is not covered under the enrollee's health plan.

Subd. 5. **Request for authorization.** The enrollee's health plan company may require medical records and other supporting documentation to be submitted with a request for authorization under subdivision 3. If authorization is denied, the health plan company must explain the criteria used to make its decision on the request for authorization and must explain the enrollee's right to appeal the decision. If an enrollee chooses to appeal a denial, the enrollee must appeal the denial within five business days of the date on which the enrollee receives the denial. If authorization is granted, the health plan company must provide the enrollee, within five business days of granting the authorization, with an explanation of how transition of care will be provided.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for health plans issued after December 31, 2016, and before March 2, 2017, and that are in effect for all or a portion of calendar year 2017. This section expires June 30, 2018.

Sec. 12. **COSTS RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.**

A state agency that incurs administrative costs to implement one or more provisions in this act and does not receive an appropriation for administrative costs in section 13 must implement the act within the limits of existing appropriations.

Sec. 13. **APPROPRIATION; COVERAGE FOR TRANSITION OF CARE.**

$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget to reimburse health plan companies for costs attributed to coverage of transition of care services under section 11. No more than three percent of this appropriation is available to the commissioner for administrative costs. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 14. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62D.12, subdivision 9, is repealed effective the day following final enactment.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 62K.11, is repealed effective July 1, 2017.

62D.12 PROHIBITED PRACTICES.

Subd. 9. **Net earnings.** All net earnings of the health maintenance organization shall be devoted to the nonprofit purposes of the health maintenance organization in providing comprehensive health care. No health maintenance organization shall provide for the payment, whether directly or indirectly, of any part of its net earnings, to any person as a dividend or rebate; provided, however, that health maintenance organizations may make payments to providers or other persons based upon the efficient provision of services or as incentives to provide quality care. The commissioner of health shall, pursuant to sections 62D.01 to 62D.30, revoke the certificate of authority of any health maintenance organization in violation of this subdivision.

62K.11 BALANCE BILLING PROHIBITED.

(a) A network provider is prohibited from billing an enrollee for any amount in excess of the allowable amount the health carrier has contracted for with the provider as total payment for the health care service. A network provider is permitted to bill an enrollee the approved co-payment, deductible, or coinsurance.

(b) A network provider is permitted to bill an enrollee for services not covered by the enrollee's health plan as long as the enrollee agrees in writing in advance before the service is performed to pay for the noncovered service.