

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Clarifies definition of “independent practice” for purpose of insurance reimbursement for services provided by licensed physician assistant or certified nurse practitioner.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to reimbursement of primary care services; amending ORS 743A.036.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 743A.036 is amended to read:

743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for reimbursement for a primary care or mental health service provided by a licensed physician, the insured under the policy is entitled to reimbursement for such service if provided by a licensed physician assistant or a certified nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

(2)(a) The reimbursement of a service described in subsection (1) of this section that is provided by a licensed physician assistant or a certified nurse practitioner who is in an independent practice shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area served.

(b) As used in this subsection, “independent practice” means the [*provision of health care services to patients in a setting in which the*] licensed physician assistant or the certified nurse practitioner bills insurers for services [*identified by*] **provided by the physician assistant or nurse practitioner using the:**

1 (A) Diagnosis and procedure codes [*using the*] **applicable to the ser-**
2 **vices;**

3 (B) Physician assistant's or nurse practitioner's own name; and

4 (C) National provider identifier[.] **for the:**

5 (i) **Physician assistant or nurse practitioner; or**

6 (ii) **Facility in which the physician assistant or nurse practitioner**
7 **provides the services.**

8 (3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance or-
9 ganizations that are federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health
10 Maintenance Organization Act or other insurers that employ physicians, li-
11 censed physician assistants or certified nurse practitioners to provide pri-
12 mary care or mental health services and do not compensate such
13 practitioners on a fee-for-service basis.

14 (4) An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed phy-
15 sician in order to comply with this section.

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