

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILLS NOS. 328 & 88**  
**91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Reported from the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Tourism, May 1, 2001, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0691S.04C

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**AN ACT**

To repeal sections 197.285, 198.530, 354.535, 354.618, 376.383, 376.406, 376.893, 376.1350, 376.1361, 376.1367, 376.1400, 376.1403 and 379.930, RSMo 2000, relating to the regulation of managed care, and to enact in lieu thereof twenty new sections relating to the same subject.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Sections 197.285, 198.530, 354.535, 354.618, 376.383, 376.406, 376.893, 376.1350, 376.1361, 376.1367, 376.1400, 376.1403 and 379.930, RSMo 2000, are repealed and twenty new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 197.285, 198.530, 354.535, 354.604, 354.618, 376.383, 376.384, 376.396, 376.406, 376.419, 376.893, 376.895, 376.1350, 376.1361, 376.1367, 376.1405, 376.1406, 376.1408, 379.930 and 1, to read as follows:

197.285. 1. Hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers shall establish and implement a written policy adopted by each hospital and ambulatory surgical center relating to the protections for employees who disclose information pursuant to subsection 2 of this section. This policy shall include a time frame for completion of investigations related to complaints, not to exceed thirty days, and a method for notifying the complainant of the disposition of the investigation. This policy shall be submitted to the department of health to verify implementation. At a minimum, such policy shall include the following provisions:

(1) No supervisor or individual with authority to hire or fire in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center shall prohibit employees from disclosing information pursuant to subsection 2 of this section;

**EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

11           (2) No supervisor or individual with authority to hire or fire in a hospital or  
12 ambulatory surgical center shall use or threaten to use his or her supervisory authority to  
13 knowingly discriminate against, dismiss, penalize or in any way retaliate against or harass  
14 an employee because the employee in good faith reported or disclosed any information  
15 pursuant to subsection 2 of this section, or in any way attempt to dissuade, prevent or  
16 interfere with an employee who wishes to report or disclose such information;

17           (3) Establish a program to identify a compliance officer who is a designated person  
18 responsible for administering the reporting and investigation process and an alternate person  
19 should the primary designee be implicated in the report.

20           2. This section shall apply to information disclosed or reported in good faith by an  
21 employee concerning:

22           (1) Alleged facility mismanagement or fraudulent activity;

23           (2) Alleged violations of applicable federal or state laws or administrative rules  
24 concerning patient care, patient safety or facility safety; or

25           (3) The ability of employees to successfully perform their assigned duties.

26 All information disclosed, collected and maintained pursuant to this subsection and pursuant  
27 to the written policy requirements of this section shall be accessible to the department of  
28 health at all times and shall be reviewed by the department of health at least  
29 annually. Complainants shall be notified of the department of health's access to such  
30 information and of the complainant's right to [appeal to the department of health] **notify the**  
31 **department of health of any information concerning alleged violations of applicable**  
32 **federal or state laws or administrative rules concerning patient care, patient safety**  
33 **or facility safety.**

34           3. Prior to any disclosure to individuals or agencies other than the department of  
35 health, employees wishing to make a disclosure pursuant to the provisions of this section  
36 shall first report to the individual or individuals designated by the hospital or ambulatory  
37 surgical center pursuant to subsection 1 of this section.

38           4. If the compliance officer, compliance committee or management official discovers  
39 credible evidence of misconduct from any source and, after a reasonable inquiry, has reason  
40 to believe that the misconduct may violate criminal, civil or administrative law, then the  
41 hospital or ambulatory surgical center shall report the existence of misconduct to the  
42 appropriate governmental authority within a reasonable period, but not more than seven days  
43 after determining that there is credible evidence of a violation.

44           5. Reports made to the department of health shall be subject to the provisions of  
45 section 197.477, provided that the restrictions of section 197.477 shall not be construed to  
46 limit the employee's ability to subpoena from the original source the information reported to

47 the department pursuant to this section.

48           6. Each written policy shall allow employees making a report who wish to remain  
49 anonymous to do so, and shall include safeguards to protect the confidentiality of the  
50 employee making the report, the confidentiality of patients and the integrity of data,  
51 information and medical records.

52           7. Each hospital and ambulatory surgical center shall, within forty-eight hours of the  
53 receipt of a report, notify the employee that his or her report has been received and is being  
54 reviewed.

55           [8. The enactment of this section shall become effective January 1, 2001.]

198.530. 1. If an enrollee in a managed care organization is also a resident in a  
2 long-term care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 198, or a continuing care retirement  
3 community, as defined in section 197.305, RSMo, such enrollee's managed care organization  
4 shall provide the enrollee with the option of receiving the covered service in the long-term  
5 care facility which serves as the enrollee's primary residence. For purposes of this section,  
6 "managed care organization" means any [organization that offers any health plan certified]  
7 **entity licensed** by the department of [health] **insurance that offers any health plans**  
8 designed to provide incentives to medical care providers to manage the cost and use of care  
9 associated with claims, including, but not limited to, a health maintenance organization [and  
10 preferred provider organization], **insurance company and health services**  
11 **corporation**. The resident enrollee's managed care organization shall reimburse the  
12 resident facility for those services which would otherwise be covered by the managed care  
13 organization if the following conditions apply:

14           (1) The facility is willing and able to provide the services to the resident; and

15           (2) The facility and those health care professionals delivering services to residents  
16 pursuant to this section meet the licensing and training standards as prescribed by law; and

17           (3) The facility is certified through Medicare; and

18           (4) The facility and those health care professionals delivering services to residents  
19 pursuant to this section agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the health carrier's  
20 contracts with similar providers, abide by patient protection standards and requirements  
21 imposed by state or federal law for plan enrollees and meet the quality standards established  
22 by the health carrier for similar providers.

23           2. The managed care organization shall reimburse the resident facility at a rate of  
24 reimbursement not less than the Medicare allowable rate pursuant to Medicare rules and  
25 regulations.

26           3. The services in subsection 1 of this section shall include, but are not limited to,  
27 skilled nursing care, rehabilitative and other therapy services, and postacute care, as

28 needed. Nothing in this section shall limit the managed care organization from utilizing  
29 contracted providers to deliver the services in the enrollee's resident facility.

30         4. A resident facility shall not prohibit a health carrier's participating providers from  
31 providing covered benefits to an enrollee in the resident facility. A resident facility or health  
32 care professional shall not impose any charges on an enrollee for any service that is ancillary  
33 to, a component of, or in support of the services provided [under] **pursuant to** this section  
34 when the services are provided by a health carrier's participating provider, or otherwise  
35 create a disincentive for the use of the health carrier's participating providers. Any violation  
36 of the requirements of this subsection by the resident facility shall be considered abuse or  
37 neglect of the resident enrollee.

354.535. 1. If a pharmacy, operated by or contracted with by a health [maintenance  
2 organization] **carrier**, is closed or is unable to provide health care services to an enrollee in  
3 an emergency, a pharmacist may take an assignment of such enrollee's right to  
4 reimbursement, if the policy or contract provides for such reimbursement, for those goods or  
5 services provided to an enrollee of a health [maintenance organization] **carrier**. No health  
6 [maintenance organization] **carrier** shall refuse to pay the pharmacist any payment due the  
7 enrollee under the terms of the policy or contract.

8         2. No health [maintenance organization] **carrier**, conducting business in the state  
9 of Missouri, shall contract with a pharmacy, pharmacy distributor or wholesale drug  
10 distributor, nonresident or otherwise, unless such pharmacy or distributor has been granted  
11 a permit or license from the Missouri board of pharmacy to operate in this state.

12         3. Every health [maintenance organization] **carrier** shall apply the same  
13 coinsurance, co-payment and deductible factors to all drug prescriptions filled by a pharmacy  
14 provider who participates in the health [maintenance organization's] **carrier's** network if the  
15 provider meets the contract's explicit product cost determination. If any such contract is  
16 rejected by any pharmacy provider, the health [maintenance organization] **carrier** may offer  
17 other contracts necessary to comply with any network adequacy provisions of this  
18 act. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the health [maintenance  
19 organization] **carrier** from applying different coinsurance, co-payment and deductible factors  
20 between generic and brand name drugs.

21         4. Health [maintenance organizations] **carriers** shall not set a limit on the quantity  
22 of drugs which an enrollee may obtain at any one time with a prescription, unless such limit  
23 is applied uniformly to all pharmacy providers in the health [maintenance organization's]  
24 **carrier's** network.

25         5. Health [maintenance organizations] **carriers** shall not insist or mandate any  
26 physician or other licensed health care practitioner to change an enrollee's maintenance drug

27 unless the provider and enrollee agree to such change. For the purposes of this provision, a  
28 maintenance drug shall mean a drug prescribed by a practitioner who is licensed to prescribe  
29 drugs, used to treat a medical condition for a period greater than thirty days. Violations of  
30 this provision shall be subject to the penalties provided in section 354.444. Notwithstanding  
31 other provisions of law to the contrary, health [maintenance organizations] **carriers** that  
32 change an enrollee's maintenance drug without the consent of the provider and enrollee shall  
33 be liable for any damages resulting from such change. Nothing in this subsection, however,  
34 shall apply to the dispensing of generically equivalent products for prescribed brand name  
35 maintenance drugs as set forth in section 338.056, RSMo.

**354.604. The provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection 1 of section 354.603**  
2 **shall not be construed to require any provider to submit copies of such provider's**  
3 **income tax returns to a health carrier. A health carrier may require a provider to**  
4 **obtain audited financial statements if such provider received ten percent or more**  
5 **of the total medical expenditures made by the health carrier.**

354.618. 1. A health carrier shall be required to offer as an additional health plan,  
2 an open referral health plan whenever it markets a gatekeeper group plan as an exclusive or  
3 full replacement health plan offering to a group contract holder:

4 (1) In the case of group health plans offered to employers of fifty or fewer employees,  
5 the decision to accept or reject the additional open referral plan offering shall be made by the  
6 group contract holder. For health plans marketed to employers of over fifty employees, the  
7 decision to accept or reject shall be made by the employee;

8 (2) Contracts currently in existence shall offer the additional open referral health plan  
9 at the next annual renewal after August 28, 1997; however, multiyear group contracts need  
10 not comply until the expiration of their current multiyear term unless the group contract  
11 holder elects to comply before that time;

12 (3) If an employer provides more than one health plan to its employees and at least  
13 one is an open referral plan, then all health benefit plans offered by such employer shall be  
14 exempt from the requirements of this section.

15 2. For the purposes of this [act] **section**, the following terms shall mean:

16 (1) "Open referral plan", a plan in which the enrollee is allowed to obtain treatment  
17 for covered benefits without a referral from a primary care physician from any person licensed  
18 to provide such treatment;

19 (2) "Gatekeeper group plan", a plan in which the enrollee is required to obtain a  
20 referral from a primary care professional in order to access specialty care.

21 3. Any health benefit plan provided pursuant to the Medicaid program shall be  
22 exempt from the requirements of this section.

23           4. [A health carrier shall have a procedure by which a female enrollee may seek the  
24 health care services of an obstetrician/gynecologist at least once a year without first obtaining  
25 prior approval from the enrollee's primary care provider if the benefits are covered under the  
26 enrollee's health benefit plan, and the obstetrician/gynecologist is a member of the health  
27 carrier's network.] **A health carrier shall not require as a condition to the coverage  
28 of the services of a participating obstetrician, participating gynecologist or  
29 participating obstetrician/gynecologist that a covered person first obtain a referral  
30 from a primary care provider. The covered person shall, at all times, have direct  
31 access to the services of a participating obstetrician, participating gynecologist or  
32 participating obstetrician/gynecologist of her choice within the provider  
33 network. For purposes of this subsection, an obstetrician, gynecologist or  
34 obstetrician/gynecologist is defined as a physician licensed pursuant to chapter  
35 334, RSMo, and is board eligible or board certified by the American Board of  
36 Obstetricians and Gynecologists. The services covered by this subsection shall be  
37 limited to those services defined by the published recommendations of the  
38 accreditation council for graduate medical education for training an obstetrician,  
39 gynecologist or obstetrician/gynecologist, including, but not limited to, diagnosis,  
40 treatment and referral. A health carrier shall not impose a surcharge, or additional  
41 co-payments or deductibles upon any covered person who seeks or receives health  
42 care services pursuant to this subsection, unless similar surcharges, or additional  
43 co-payments or deductibles are imposed for other types of health care services  
44 received within the network. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
45 conflict with section 376.805, RSMo. In no event shall a health carrier be required to  
46 permit an enrollee to have health care services delivered by a nonparticipating  
47 obstetrician/gynecologist. [An obstetrician/gynecologist who delivers health care services  
48 directly to an enrollee shall report such visit and health care services provided to the  
49 enrollee's primary care provider. A health carrier may require an enrollee to obtain a referral  
50 from the primary care physician, if such enrollee requires more than one annual visit with  
51 an obstetrician/gynecologist.]**

52           5. Except for good cause, a health carrier shall be prohibited either directly, or  
53 indirectly through intermediaries, from discriminating between eye care providers when  
54 selecting among providers of health services for enrollment in the network and when referring  
55 enrollees for health services provided within the scope of those professional licenses and when  
56 reimbursing amounts for covered services among persons duly licensed to provide such  
57 services. For the purposes of this section, an eye care provider may be either an optometrist  
58 licensed pursuant to chapter 336, RSMo, or a physician who specializes in [ophthamologic]

59 **ophthalmologic** medicine, licensed pursuant to chapter 334, RSMo.

60 6. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as to require a health carrier  
61 to pay for health care services not provided for in the terms of a health benefit plan.

62 7. Any health carrier, which is sponsored by a federally qualified health center and  
63 is presently in existence and which has been in existence for less than three years shall be  
64 exempt from this section for a period not to exceed two years from August 28, 1997.

65 8. A health carrier shall not be required to offer the [direct access rider] **open**  
66 **referral plan** for a group contract holder's health benefit plan if the health benefit plan is  
67 being provided pursuant to the terms of a collective bargaining agreement with a labor union,  
68 in accordance with federal law and the labor union has declined such option on behalf of its  
69 members.

70 9. Nothing in this [act] **section** shall be construed to preempt the employer's right  
71 to select the health care provider pursuant to section 287.140, RSMo, in a case where an  
72 employee incurs a work-related injury covered by the provisions of chapter 287, RSMo.

73 10. Nothing contained in this [act] **section** shall apply to certified managed care  
74 organizations while providing medical treatment to injured employees entitled to receive  
75 health benefits [under] **pursuant to the provisions of** chapter 287, RSMo, pursuant to  
76 contractual arrangements with employers, or their insurers, [under] **pursuant to** section  
77 287.135, RSMo.

376.383. 1. [To the extent consistent with] **Except to the extent preempted by**  
2 the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1001, et seq., this  
3 section shall apply to any health [insurer] **carrier** as defined in section [376.806, any  
4 nonprofit health service plan and any health maintenance organization] **376.1350**.

5 2. Within forty-five days after receipt of a claim for reimbursement [from a person  
6 entitled to reimbursement] **for a health care service provided in this state as defined**  
7 **in section 376.1350**, a health [insurer, nonprofit health service plan or health maintenance  
8 organization] **carrier** shall pay the claim in accordance with this section or send a notice of  
9 receipt and status of the claim that states:

10 (1) That the [insurer, nonprofit health service plan or health maintenance  
11 organization] **health carrier** refuses to reimburse all or part of the claim and the reason for  
12 the refusal; [or]

13 (2) **Until April 1, 2002**, that additional information is necessary to determine if all  
14 or part of the claim will be reimbursed and what specific additional information **that** is  
15 necessary; **or**

16 (3) **On or after April 1, 2002, that additional information is necessary to**  
17 **determine if all or part of the claim will be reimbursed and a complete description**

18 **of all specific additional information that is necessary to process the entire claim.**

19         3. If [an insurer, nonprofit health service plan or health maintenance organization]  
20 **a health carrier** fails to comply with subsection 2 of this section, the [insurer, nonprofit  
21 health service plan or health maintenance organization] **health carrier** shall pay interest  
22 on the amount of the claim that remains unpaid forty-five days after the claim is filed at the  
23 monthly rate of one percent. The interest paid pursuant to this subsection shall be included  
24 in any late reimbursement without the necessity for the person that filed the original claim  
25 to make an additional claim for that interest. **A carrier may combine interest payments**  
26 **and make payment once the aggregated amount reaches five dollars.**

27         4. Within ten days after the day on which all additional information is received by [an  
28 insurer, nonprofit health service plan or health maintenance organization] **a health carrier**,  
29 it shall pay the claim in accordance with this section or send a written notice that:

30             (1) States refusal to reimburse the claim or any part of the claim; and

31             (2) Specifies each reason for denial.

32 [An insurer, nonprofit health service plan or health maintenance organization] **A health**  
33 **carrier** that fails to comply with this subsection shall pay interest on any amount of the  
34 claim that remains unpaid at the monthly rate of one percent.

35         5. A provider, **as defined in section 376.1350**, who is paid interest [under]  
36 **pursuant to** this section shall pay the proportionate amount of [said] **such** interest to the  
37 enrollee or insured to the extent and for the time period that the enrollee or insured had paid  
38 for the services and for which reimbursement was due to the insured or enrollee.

39         6. [This section shall become effective April 1, 1999.] **In addition to other**  
40 **remedies provided by law, a person who has filed a claim for reimbursement for a**  
41 **health care service, as defined in section 376.1350, may file a civil action against the**  
42 **health carrier for any violation of this section; provided that such person may not**  
43 **file a civil action until the tenth day following the receipt by the health carrier of**  
44 **a certified letter notifying the health carrier of such person's intention to file a civil**  
45 **action pursuant to this section. Such notice must include the information**  
46 **previously submitted on the claim for reimbursement. No civil action may be filed**  
47 **on any claim and interest paid within the ten-day grace period. If the court finds**  
48 **that a violation of this section has occurred, the court shall award to a prevailing**  
49 **plaintiff a penalty of fifty dollars per day beginning ten days following the date that**  
50 **interest pursuant to this section first becomes due, in addition to the claimed**  
51 **reimbursement and interest. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 507.070,**  
52 **RSMo, or any other law or rule of court authorizing class actions, no civil action**  
53 **filed pursuant to this subsection shall be in the form of a class action.**



**376.384. 1. For purposes of this section, "health care provider" or "provider" means a health care professional or facility, and "health carrier" means the same as such term is defined in section 376.1350. All health carriers shall:**

**(1) Permit providers to file confirmation numbers of certified services and claims in the same manner or format;**

**(2) Permit providers to file claims for reimbursement for a period of up to one year following the provision of a health care service;**

**(3) Effective January 1, 2003, accept claims for reimbursement from health care providers that are filed electronically. Effective January 1, 2003, all claims for reimbursement filed with health carriers by health care providers that are submitted electronically shall be filed in a form and format specified by the department of insurance. Once such form has been completed in its entirety, then such claim shall be deemed a "clean claim". The department of insurance shall promulgate rules specifying the form and format governing such electronic claims submission consistent with federal administrative simplifications standards adopted pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996;**

**(4) Issue within 24 hours, for all claims filed electronically, confirmation of receiving a claim for reimbursement;**

**(5) When processing claims, accept all codes, including modifiers, that are included within the physician's current procedural terminology (CPT) of the American Medical Association, as amended; the Health Care Financing Administration's common procedure coding system (HCPCS), as amended; the International Classification of Diseases 9th Revision Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) system, as amended; Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) coding, as amended; and any additional procedure, diagnosis and treatment codes approved by the department of insurance. The department of insurance shall promulgate rules for the implementation of such standard codes and the approval of additional procedure, diagnosis and treatment codes; and**

**(6) During contract negotiations with providers and upon delivery of the final contract, provide a current fee schedule for provider reimbursement for all covered services for which the health care professional is contracted to provide and forward to the provider, at least thirty days in advance of the effective date of such modifications, all modifications to such fee schedule.**

**2. No health carrier shall request a refund or offset against a claim more than twelve months after a carrier has paid a claim except in cases of fraud or misrepresentation by the provider.**

38           **3. All health carriers shall provide access on the Internet to a current**  
39 **provider directory.**

40           **4. A health carrier shall inform an enrollee when the carrier denies coverage**  
41 **of a health care service requested to be provided or provided to such enrollee. The**  
42 **health carrier shall explain such denial of coverage in plain language that is easy**  
43 **for a layperson to understand.**

44           **5. Effective July 1, 2002, a health carrier shall issue to each enrollee an**  
45 **enrollee card which includes a telephone number for the plan, prescription drug**  
46 **information and a brief description of the enrollee's type of health care plan. Such**  
47 **description shall include, but not be limited to, terms such as preferred provider**  
48 **organization, point of service, health maintenance organization or indemnity**  
49 **plan. Such enrollee card shall be reissued upon any change in the enrollee's**  
50 **benefits or coverage that impacts the information included on the card.**

51           **6. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this**  
52 **section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the**  
53 **provisions of chapter 536, RSMo.**

**376.396. 1. Upon written request and no less than once each policy year,**  
2 **every insurer issuing a group policy in this state shall provide the group**  
3 **policyholder with an annual written report. Such report shall be written in a**  
4 **manner which protects the confidentiality of all employees of the group**  
5 **policyholder and shall be consistent with federal law or shall be no more stringent**  
6 **than federal law.**

7           **2. For group policyholders classified as small groups and subject to the**  
8 **small group underwriting regulations, the insurer shall provide a written report**  
9 **that includes:**

10           **(1) Medical and administrative costs (expressed as per member per month**  
11 **amounts) of the small group class to which the group policyholder is assigned for**  
12 **the most recent premium year;**

13           **(2) Group specific medical costs for the most recent premium year;**

14           **(3) The insurer's trend factor used to estimate the costs in the premium year**  
15 **being quoted; and**

16           **(4) The pricing tier (expressed as a percentage of the insurer's best new**  
17 **business premium rate for this class of business) used to compute the group**  
18 **policyholder's premium.**

19           **3. For group policyholders not subject to small group underwriting**  
20 **regulations, the insurer shall provide a written report that includes:**

21           **(1) Group specific medical costs for the most recent premium year;**

22           **(2) The insurer's trend factor used to estimate those costs in the premium**  
23 **year being quoted;**

24           **(3) The insurer's book rate for the group adjusted for the age and sex;**

25           **(4) The underwriting mark-up or mark-down to the book rate based upon**  
26 **the medical risk experience of the group; and**

27           **(5) The provision for administrative costs, expressed as a percentage of**  
28 **premium used in developing the premium quote.**

29           **4. Group specific medical costs shall be reported on a fully incurred basis,**  
30 **and shall at a minimum provide separate totals for inpatient, outpatient, physician**  
31 **and pharmacy costs.**

32           **5. Any group policyholder may waive receipt of the written report, or agree**  
33 **to delivery of the written report separate from an initial or renewal premium quote**  
34 **either in writing or by electronic message.**

376.406. 1. All [individual and group health insurance policies providing coverage  
2 on an expense incurred basis, individual and group service or indemnity type contracts issued  
3 by a nonprofit corporation, and all self-insured group health benefit plans, of any type or  
4 description,] **health benefit plans, as defined in section 376.1350**, which provide coverage  
5 for a family member of [the insured or subscriber] **an enrollee** shall, as to such family  
6 member's coverage, also provide that the health [insurance] benefits applicable for children  
7 shall be payable with respect to a newly born child of the [insured or subscriber] **enrollee**  
8 from the moment of birth.

9           2. The coverage for newly born children shall consist of coverage of injury or sickness  
10 including the necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and  
11 birth abnormalities.

12           3. If payment of a specific premium or subscription fee is required to provide coverage  
13 for a child, the [policy or contract] **health benefit plan** may require that notification of birth  
14 of a newly born child and payment of the required premium or fees must be furnished to the  
15 [insurer or nonprofit service or indemnity corporation] **health carrier** within thirty-one days  
16 after the date of birth in order to have the coverage continue beyond such thirty-one day  
17 period. **If an application or other form of enrollment is required in order to**  
18 **continue coverage beyond the thirty-one-day period after the date of birth and the**  
19 **enrollee has notified the health carrier of the birth, either orally or in writing, the**  
20 **health carrier shall, upon notification, provide the enrollee with all forms and**  
21 **instructions necessary to enroll the newly born child and shall allow the enrollee**  
22 **an additional ten days from the date the forms and instructions are provided in**  
23 **which to enroll the newly born child.**

24           4. The requirements of this section shall apply to all [insurance policies and  
25 subscriber contracts] **health benefit plans** delivered or issued for delivery in this state  
26 [more than one hundred twenty days after August 13, 1974] **on or after August 28, 2001.**

27           5. For the purposes of this section, any review, renewal, extension, or continuation  
28 of any [plan, policy, or contract] **health benefit plan** or of any of the terms, premiums, or  
29 subscriptions of the [plan, policy, or contract] **health benefit plan** shall constitute a new  
30 delivery or issuance for delivery of the [plan, policy or contract] **health benefit plan.**

31           **6. As used in this section, the terms "health benefit plan", "health carrier" and**  
32 **"enrollee" shall have the same meaning as defined in section 376.1350.**

**376.419. 1. As used in this section, the term "hold harmless clause" means a**  
2 **contractual arrangement whereby a health care provider assumes the sole liability**  
3 **inherent in the provision of health care services, thereby relieving an insurer from**  
4 **such liability except that nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to any**  
5 **clause in the contract prohibiting providers from balance billing the enrollee or his**  
6 **or her family for any amount in excess of the amount provided for in the contract**  
7 **between the provider and the carrier. For purposes of this section, "health care**  
8 **provider" or "provider" means a health care professional or facility.**

9           **2. Except to the extent preempted by the Employee Retirement Income**  
10 **Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C. 1001, et seq., this section shall apply to any**  
11 **health carrier, as defined in section 376.1350.**

12           **3. Any contract between a health care provider and a health carrier entered**  
13 **into after the effective date of this section shall include a clause that states that**  
14 **each party shall be responsible for any and all claims, liabilities, damages or**  
15 **judgments which may arise as a result of its own negligence or intentional**  
16 **wrongdoing. Each party signatory to the contract shall hold harmless and**  
17 **indemnify the other party against any claims, liabilities, damages or judgments**  
18 **which may be asserted against, imposed upon or incurred by the other party as a**  
19 **result of the first party's negligence or intentional wrongdoing.**

**376.893. 1. Within sixty days of legal separation or the entry of a decree of dissolution**  
2 **of marriage or prior to the expiration of a thirty-six month federal Consolidated Omnibus**  
3 **Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) continuation period covering a legally separated or**  
4 **divorced spouse, if such spouse has elected and maintained such COBRA coverage, a legally**  
5 **separated or divorced spouse eligible for continued coverage [under] pursuant to section**  
6 **376.892 who seeks such coverage shall give the plan administrator written notice of the legal**  
7 **separation or dissolution. The notice shall include the mailing address of the legally**  
8 **separated or divorced spouse.**

9           2. Within thirty days of the death of a certificate holder whose surviving spouse is  
10 eligible for continued coverage [under] **pursuant to** section 376.892 or prior to the expiration  
11 of a thirty-six month federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)  
12 continuation period covering such surviving spouse, if such spouse has elected and  
13 maintained such COBRA coverage, the group policyholder shall give the plan administrator  
14 written notice of the death and of the mailing address of the surviving spouse.

15           3. Within fourteen days of receipt of notice [under] **pursuant to** subsection 1 or 2 of  
16 this section, the plan administrator shall notify the legally separated, divorced or surviving  
17 spouse that the policy may be continued. The notice shall be mailed to the mailing address  
18 provided to the plan administrator and shall include:

19           (1) A form for election to continue the coverage;

20           (2) A statement of the amount of periodic premiums to be charged for the continuation  
21 of coverage and of the method and place of payment; [and]

22           (3) Instructions for returning the election form by mail within sixty days after the  
23 date of mailing of the notice by the plan administrator; **and**

24           **(4) Notice that if insurance is continued the insurer is required to provide**  
25 **both parents of a covered child with coverage information upon request regardless**  
26 **of whether the parent is the primary policyholder pursuant to section 376.895.**

27           4. Failure of the legally separated, divorced or surviving spouse to exercise the  
28 election in accordance with subsection 3 of this section shall terminate the right to  
29 continuation of benefits.

30           5. If a plan administrator was properly notified pursuant to the provisions of  
31 subsection 1 or 2 of this section and fails to notify the legally separated, divorced or surviving  
32 spouse as required by subsection 3 of this section, such spouse's coverage shall continue in  
33 effect, and such spouse's obligation to make any premium payment for continuation coverage  
34 [under] **pursuant to** sections 376.891 to 376.894 shall be postponed for the period of time  
35 beginning on the date the spouse's coverage would otherwise terminate and ending thirty-one  
36 days after the date the plan administrator provides the required notice. Failure or delay by  
37 a plan administrator in providing the notice required by this section shall not reduce,  
38 eliminate or postpone the plan sponsor's obligation to pay premiums on behalf of such legally  
39 separated, divorced or surviving spouse to the plan administrator during such period.

40           6. The provisions of sections 376.891 to 376.894 apply only to employers with twenty  
41 or more employees and any policy, contract or plan with twenty or more certificate holders.

**376.895. Any health carrier, as defined in section 376.1350, providing**  
2 **coverage for a child with parents who are legally separated or divorced shall**  
3 **provide upon request coverage information regarding such child to both parents**

4 **regardless of whether the inquiring parent is the primary policyholder.**

2 376.1350. For purposes of sections 376.1350 to 376.1390, the following terms mean:

3 (1) "Adverse determination", a determination by a health carrier or its designee  
4 utilization review organization that an admission, availability of care, continued stay or other  
5 health care service has been reviewed and, based upon the information provided, does not  
6 meet the health carrier's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care  
7 setting, level of care or effectiveness, and the payment for the requested service is therefore  
8 denied, reduced or terminated;

9 (2) "Ambulatory review", utilization review of health care services performed or  
10 provided in an outpatient setting;

11 (3) "Case management", a coordinated set of activities conducted for individual patient  
12 management of serious, complicated, protracted or other health conditions;

13 (4) "Certification" **or "certifies"**, a determination by a health carrier or its designee  
14 utilization review organization that an admission, availability of care, continued stay or other  
15 health care service has been reviewed and, based on the information provided, satisfies the  
16 health carrier's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level  
17 of care and effectiveness, **and that the service is a covered benefit under the plan;**

18 (5) "Clinical peer", a physician or other health care professional who holds a  
19 nonrestricted license in a state of the United States and in the same or similar specialty as  
20 typically manages the medical condition, procedure or treatment under review;

21 (6) "Clinical review criteria", the written screening procedures, decision abstracts,  
22 clinical protocols and practice guidelines used by the health carrier to determine the necessity  
23 and appropriateness of health care services;

24 (7) "Concurrent review", utilization review conducted during a patient's hospital stay  
25 or course of treatment;

26 (8) "Covered benefit" or "benefit", a health care service that an enrollee is entitled  
27 under the terms of a health benefit plan;

28 (9) "Director", the director of the department of insurance;

29 (10) "Discharge planning", the formal process for determining, prior to discharge from  
30 a facility, the coordination and management of the care that a patient receives following  
31 discharge from a facility;

32 (11) "Drug", any substance prescribed by a licensed health care provider acting within  
33 the scope of the provider's license and that is intended for use in the diagnosis, mitigation,  
34 treatment or prevention of disease. The term includes only those substances that are  
35 approved by the FDA for at least one indication;

36 (12) "Emergency medical condition", the sudden and, at the time, unexpected onset

37 of a health condition that manifests itself by symptoms of sufficient severity that would lead  
38 a prudent lay person, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, to believe that  
39 immediate medical care is required, which may include, but shall not be limited to:

40 (a) Placing the person's health in significant jeopardy;

41 (b) Serious impairment to a bodily function;

42 (c) Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part;

43 (d) Inadequately controlled pain; or

44 (e) With respect to a pregnant woman who is having contractions:

45 a. That there is inadequate time to effect a safe transfer to another hospital before  
46 delivery; or

47 b. That transfer to another hospital may pose a threat to the health or safety of the  
48 woman or unborn child;

49 (13) "Emergency service", a health care item or service furnished or required to  
50 evaluate and treat an emergency medical condition, which may include, but shall not be  
51 limited to, health care services that are provided in a licensed hospital's emergency facility  
52 by an appropriate provider;

53 (14) "Enrollee", a policyholder, subscriber, covered person or other individual  
54 participating in a health benefit plan;

55 (15) "FDA", the federal Food and Drug Administration;

56 (16) "Facility", an institution providing health care services or a health care setting,  
57 including but not limited to hospitals and other licensed inpatient centers, ambulatory  
58 surgical or treatment centers, skilled nursing centers, residential treatment centers,  
59 diagnostic, laboratory and imaging centers, and rehabilitation and other therapeutic health  
60 settings;

61 (17) "Grievance", a written complaint submitted by or on behalf of an enrollee  
62 regarding the:

63 (a) Availability, delivery or quality of health care services, including a complaint  
64 regarding an adverse determination made pursuant to utilization review;

65 (b) Claims payment, handling or reimbursement for health care services; or

66 (c) Matters pertaining to the contractual relationship between an enrollee and a  
67 health carrier;

68 (18) "Health benefit plan", a policy, contract, certificate or agreement entered into,  
69 offered or issued by a health carrier to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any  
70 of the costs of health care services;

71 (19) "Health care professional", a physician or other health care practitioner licensed,  
72 accredited or certified by the state of Missouri to perform specified health services consistent

- 73 with state law;
- 74 (20) "Health care provider" or "provider", a health care professional or a facility;
- 75 (21) "Health care service", a service **or prescription medication** for the diagnosis,
- 76 prevention, treatment, cure or relief of a health condition, illness, injury or disease;
- 77 (22) "Health carrier", an entity subject to the insurance laws and regulations of this
- 78 state that contracts or offers to contract to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for or reimburse
- 79 any of the costs of health care services, including a sickness and accident insurance company,
- 80 a health maintenance organization, a nonprofit hospital and health service corporation, or any
- 81 other entity providing a plan of health insurance, health benefits or health services;
- 82 (23) "Health indemnity plan", a health benefit plan that is not a managed care plan;
- 83 (24) "Managed care plan", a health benefit plan that either requires an enrollee to use,
- 84 or creates incentives, including financial incentives, for an enrollee to use, health care
- 85 providers managed, owned, under contract with or employed by the health carrier;
- 86 (25) "Participating provider", a provider who, under a contract with the health carrier
- 87 or with its contractor or subcontractor, has agreed to provide health care services to enrollees
- 88 with an expectation of receiving payment, other than coinsurance, co-payments or deductibles,
- 89 directly or indirectly from the health carrier;
- 90 (26) "Peer-reviewed medical literature", a published scientific study in a journal or
- 91 other publication in which original manuscripts have been published only after having been
- 92 critically reviewed for scientific accuracy, validity and reliability by unbiased independent
- 93 experts, and that has been determined by the International Committee of Medical Journal
- 94 Editors to have met the uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical
- 95 journals or is published in a journal specified by the United States Department of Health and
- 96 Human Services pursuant to section 1861(t)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act, as amended, as
- 97 acceptable peer-reviewed medical literature. Peer-reviewed medical literature shall not
- 98 include publications or supplements to publications that are sponsored to a significant extent
- 99 by a pharmaceutical manufacturing company or health carrier;
- 100 (27) "Person", an individual, a corporation, a partnership, an association, a joint
- 101 venture, a joint stock company, a trust, an unincorporated organization, any similar entity
- 102 or any combination of the foregoing;
- 103 (28) "Prospective review", utilization review conducted prior to an admission or a
- 104 course of treatment;
- 105 (29) "Retrospective review", utilization review of medical necessity that is conducted
- 106 after services have been provided to a patient, but does not include the review of a claim that
- 107 is limited to an evaluation of reimbursement levels, veracity of documentation, accuracy of
- 108 coding or adjudication for payment;



109           (30) "Second opinion", an opportunity or requirement to obtain a clinical evaluation  
110 by a provider other than the one originally making a recommendation for a proposed health  
111 service to assess the clinical necessity and appropriateness of the initial proposed health  
112 service;

113           (31) "Stabilize", with respect to an emergency medical condition, that no material  
114 deterioration of the condition is likely to result or occur before an individual may be  
115 transferred;

116           (32) "Standard reference compendia":

117           (a) The American Hospital Formulary Service-Drug Information; or

118           (b) The United States Pharmacopoeia-Drug Information;

119           (33) "Utilization review", a set of formal techniques designed to monitor the use of,  
120 or evaluate the clinical necessity, appropriateness, efficacy, or efficiency of, health care  
121 services, procedures, or settings. Techniques may include ambulatory review, prospective  
122 review, second opinion, certification, concurrent review, case management, discharge planning  
123 or retrospective review. Utilization review shall not include elective requests for clarification  
124 of coverage;

125           (34) "Utilization review organization", a utilization review agent as defined in section  
126 374.500, RSMo.

          376.1361. 1. A utilization review program shall use documented clinical review  
2 criteria that are based on sound clinical evidence and are evaluated periodically to assure  
3 ongoing efficacy. A health carrier may develop its own clinical review criteria, or it may  
4 purchase or license clinical review criteria from qualified vendors. A health carrier shall  
5 make available its clinical review criteria upon request by either the director of the  
6 department of health or the director of the department of insurance.

7           2. Any medical director who administers the utilization review program or oversees  
8 the review decisions shall be a qualified health care professional licensed in the state of  
9 Missouri. A licensed clinical peer shall evaluate the clinical appropriateness of adverse  
10 determinations.

11           3. A health carrier shall issue utilization review decisions in a timely manner  
12 pursuant to the requirements of sections 376.1363, 376.1365 and 376.1367. A health carrier  
13 shall obtain all information required to make a utilization review decision, including pertinent  
14 clinical information. A health carrier shall have a process to ensure that utilization reviewers  
15 apply clinical review criteria consistently.

16           4. A health carrier's data systems shall be sufficient to support utilization review  
17 program activities and to generate management reports to enable the health carrier to  
18 monitor and manage health care services effectively.

19           5. If a health carrier delegates any utilization review activities to a utilization review  
20 organization, the health carrier shall maintain adequate oversight, which shall include:

21           (1) A written description of the utilization review organization's activities and  
22 responsibilities, including reporting requirements;

23           (2) Evidence of formal approval of the utilization review organization program by the  
24 health carrier; and

25           (3) A process by which the health carrier evaluates the performance of the utilization  
26 review organization.

27           6. The health carrier shall coordinate the utilization review program with other  
28 medical management activities conducted by the carrier, such as quality assurance,  
29 credentialing, provider contracting, data reporting, grievance procedures, processes for  
30 accessing member satisfaction and risk management.

31           7. A health carrier shall provide enrollees and participating providers with timely  
32 access to its review staff by a toll-free number.

33           8. When conducting utilization review, the health carrier shall collect only the  
34 information necessary to certify the admission, procedure or treatment, length of stay,  
35 frequency and duration of services.

36           9. Compensation to persons providing utilization review services for a health carrier  
37 shall not contain direct or indirect incentives for such persons to make medically  
38 inappropriate review decisions. Compensation to any such persons may not be directly or  
39 indirectly based on the quantity or type of adverse determinations rendered.

40           10. A health carrier shall permit enrollees or a provider on behalf of an enrollee to  
41 appeal for the coverage of medically necessary pharmaceutical prescriptions and durable  
42 medical equipment as part of the health carriers' utilization review process.

43           11. (1) This subsection shall apply to:

44           (a) Any health benefit plan that is issued, amended, delivered or renewed on or after  
45 January 1, 1998, and provides coverage for drugs; or

46           (b) Any person making a determination regarding payment or reimbursement for a  
47 prescription drug pursuant to such plan.

48           (2) A health benefit plan that provides coverage for drugs shall provide coverage for  
49 any drug prescribed to treat an indication so long as the drug has been approved by the FDA  
50 for at least one indication, if the drug is recognized for treatment of the covered indication in  
51 one of the standard reference compendia or in substantially accepted peer-reviewed medical  
52 literature and deemed medically appropriate.

53           (3) This section shall not be construed to require coverage for a drug when the FDA  
54 has determined its use to be contraindicated for treatment of the current indication.

55 (4) A drug use that is covered pursuant to subsection 1 of this section shall not be  
56 denied coverage based on a "medical necessity" requirement except for a reason that is  
57 unrelated to the legal status of the drug use.

58 (5) Any drug or service furnished in a research trial, if the sponsor of the research  
59 trial furnishes such drug or service without charge to any participant in the research trial,  
60 shall not be subject to coverage pursuant to subsection 1 of this section.

61 (6) Nothing in this section shall require payment for nonformulary drugs, except that  
62 the state may exclude or otherwise restrict coverage of a covered outpatient drug from  
63 Medicaid programs as specified in the Social Security Act, Section 1927(d)(1)(B).

64 **(7) Every health carrier shall notify the dispensing pharmacy, prescribing**  
65 **physician and enrollee when a nonformulary drug is authorized with conditions,**  
66 **such as an authorization for a limited period of time.**

67 12. A carrier shall issue a confirmation number to an enrollee when the health  
68 carrier, acting through a participating provider or other authorized representative,  
69 [authorizes] **certifies** the provision of health care services.

70 13. If an authorized representative of a health carrier [authorizes] **certifies** the  
71 provision of health care services, the health carrier shall not subsequently retract its  
72 [authorization] **certification** after the health care services have been provided, or reduce  
73 payment for an item or service furnished in reliance on [approval] **such certification,**  
74 unless:

75 (1) Such [authorization] **certification** is based on a material misrepresentation or  
76 omission about the treated person's health condition or the cause of the health condition; or

77 (2) The health benefit plan terminates before the health care services are provided;  
78 [or]

79 (3) The covered person's coverage under the health benefit plan terminates before the  
80 health care services are provided; **or**

81 **(4) The covered person's coverage under the health benefit plan has**  
82 **exceeded such person's annual or lifetime benefits limit.**

376.1367. When conducting utilization review or making a benefit determination for  
2 emergency services:

3 (1) A health carrier shall cover emergency services necessary to screen and stabilize  
4 an enrollee and shall not require prior authorization of such services;

5 (2) Coverage of emergency services shall be subject to applicable co-payments,  
6 coinsurance and deductibles;

7 (3) When an enrollee receives an emergency service that requires immediate post  
8 evaluation or post stabilization services, a health carrier shall provide [an authorization] a

9 **certification** decision within [sixty] **forty-five** minutes of receiving a request; if the  
10 [authorization] **certification** decision is not made within [thirty] **forty-five** minutes, such  
11 services shall be deemed approved.

376.1405. 1. Every health insurance carrier offering policies of insurance in  
2 this state shall use a standardized form for the explanation of benefits given to the  
3 health care provider whenever a claim is paid or denied. As used in this section,  
4 the term "health insurance carrier" shall have the meaning given to "health carrier"  
5 in section 376.1350. Nothing in this section shall apply to accident-only, specified  
6 disease, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement, long-term care or other limited  
7 benefit health insurance policies.

8 2. The standardized form developed by the task force as established in  
9 section 376.1408 shall contain the following:

- 10 (1) The name of the insured;
- 11 (2) The insured's identification number;
- 12 (3) The date of service;
- 13 (4) Amount of charge;
- 14 (5) Explanation for any denial;
- 15 (6) The amount paid and any balance due;
- 16 (7) The procedure code;
- 17 (8) The patient's full name; and
- 18 (9) The phone number and name of whom to contact for questions on  
19 explanation of benefits.

20 3. All health insurance carriers shall use the standard explanation of  
21 benefits form after January 1, 2004.

22 4. Every health carrier shall after January 1, 2004, make formulary  
23 information available to participating pharmacies through the Internet or other  
24 electronic means. The department of insurance shall develop rules to implement  
25 the requirements of this subsection and to protect the proprietary rights of the  
26 health carrier.

27 5. The provisions of this section shall be preempted if a federal regulating  
28 entity develops a standardized form for the explanation of benefits which is  
29 applicable to all health carriers as defined in section 376.1350.

376.1406. 1. Every health care provider and health carrier that conducts  
2 business in this state shall use a standardized form for referrals. The standardized  
3 referral form shall be used in lieu of any specific referral form developed by a  
4 health carrier for the referral process. As used in this section, the terms "health  
5 care provider" and "health carrier" shall have the meaning given to them in section

6 **376.1350.**

7 **2. The referral form developed by the task force as established in section**  
8 **376.1408 shall contain the following:**

9 **(1) The name of the insured;**

10 **(2) Place of employment;**

11 **(3) The name, address and phone number of the health carrier;**

12 **(4) The identification number and group number of the insured;**

13 **(5) The type of referral;**

14 **(6) The name, address and phone number of the health care provider**  
15 **referring the insured;**

16 **(7) The name, address and phone number of the health care provider of**  
17 **whom the insured was referred;**

18 **(8) The number of visits requested and authorized; and**

19 **(9) The health carrier's authorization number.**

20 **3. All health care providers and health carriers shall use the standardized**  
21 **referral form after January 1, 2004.**

22 **4. The provisions of this section shall be preempted if a federal regulating**  
23 **entity develops a standardized form for referrals which is applicable to all health**  
24 **carriers as defined in section 376.1350.**

**376.1408. The department of insurance shall, for any forms required by**  
2 **sections 376.1405 and 376.1406, adopt any standardized forms adopted by the**  
3 **Federal Health Care Financing Administration for such purpose.**

379.930. 1. Sections 379.930 to 379.952 shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 "Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act".

3 2. For the purposes of sections 379.930 to 379.952, **the following terms mean:**

4 (1) "Actuarial certification" [means], a written statement by a member of the  
5 American Academy of Actuaries or other individual acceptable to the director that a small  
6 employer carrier is in compliance with the provisions of section 379.936, based upon the  
7 person's examination, including a review of the appropriate records and of the actuarial  
8 assumptions and methods used by the small employer carrier in establishing premium rates  
9 for applicable health benefit plans;

10 (2) "Affiliate" or "affiliated" [means], any entity or person who directly or indirectly  
11 through one or more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by, or is under common control  
12 with, a specified entity or person;

13 (3) "Agent" [means], "insurance agent" as that term is defined in section 375.012,  
14 RSMo;

15           (4) "Base premium rate" [means], for each class of business as to a rating period, the  
16 lowest premium rate charged or that could have been charged under the rating system for  
17 that class of business, by the small employer carrier to small employers with similar case  
18 characteristics for health benefit plans with the same or similar coverage;

19           (5) "Basic health benefit plan" [means], a lower cost health benefit plan developed  
20 pursuant to section 379.944;

21           (6) "Board" [means], the board of directors of the program established pursuant to  
22 sections 379.942 and 379.943;

23           (7) "Broker" [means], "broker" as that term is defined in section 375.012, RSMo;

24           (8) "Carrier" [means], any entity that provides health insurance or health benefits in  
25 this state. For the purposes of sections 379.930 to 379.952, carrier includes an insurance  
26 company, health services corporation, fraternal benefit society, health maintenance  
27 organization, multiple employer welfare arrangement specifically authorized to operate in the  
28 state of Missouri, or any other entity providing a plan of health insurance or health benefits  
29 subject to state insurance regulation;

30           (9) "Case characteristics" [means], demographic or other objective characteristics of  
31 a small employer that are considered by the small employer carrier in the determination of  
32 premium rates for the small employer, provided that claim experience, health status and  
33 duration of coverage since issue shall not be case characteristics for the purposes of sections  
34 379.930 to 379.952;

35           (10) "Class of business" [means], all or a separate grouping of small employers  
36 established pursuant to section 379.934;

37           (11) "Committee" [means], the health benefit plan committee created pursuant to  
38 section 379.944;

39           (12) "Control" shall be defined in manner consistent with chapter 382, RSMo;

40           (13) "Dependent" [means], a spouse or an unmarried child under the age of nineteen  
41 years; an unmarried child who is a full-time student under the age of twenty-three years and  
42 who is financially dependent upon the parent; or an unmarried child of any age who is  
43 medically certified as disabled and dependent upon the parent;

44           (14) "Director" [means], the director of the department of insurance of this state;

45           (15) "Eligible employee" [means], an employee who works on a full-time basis and has  
46 a normal work week of thirty or more hours. The term includes a sole proprietor, a partner  
47 of a partnership, and an independent contractor, if the sole proprietor, partner or independent  
48 contractor is included as an employee under a health benefit plan of a small employer, but  
49 does not include an employee who works on a part-time, temporary or substitute basis. For  
50 purposes of sections 379.930 to 379.952, a person, his spouse and his minor children shall

51 constitute only one eligible employee when they are employed by the same small employer;  
52 (16) "Established geographic service area" [means], a geographical area, as approved  
53 by the director and based on the carrier's certificate of authority to transact insurance in this  
54 state, within which the carrier is authorized to provide coverage;

55 (17) "Health benefit plan" [means], any hospital or medical policy or certificate, health  
56 services corporation contract, or health maintenance organization subscriber contract. Health  
57 benefit plan does not include a policy of individual accident and sickness insurance or hospital  
58 supplemental policies having a fixed daily benefit, or accident-only, specified disease-only,  
59 credit, dental, vision, Medicare supplement, long-term care, or disability income insurance,  
60 or coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance, worker's compensation or similar  
61 insurance, or automobile medical payment insurance;

62 (18) "Index rate" [means], for each class of business as to a rating period for small  
63 employers with similar case characteristics, the arithmetic mean of the applicable base  
64 premium rate and the corresponding highest premium rate;

65 (19) "Late enrollee" [means], an eligible employee or dependent who requests  
66 enrollment in a health benefit plan of a small employer following the initial enrollment period  
67 for which such individual is entitled to enroll under the terms of the health benefit plan,  
68 provided that such initial enrollment period is a period of at least thirty days. However, an  
69 eligible employee or dependent shall not be considered a late enrollee if:

70 (a) The individual meets each of the following:

71 a. The individual was covered under qualifying previous coverage at the time of the  
72 initial enrollment;

73 b. The individual lost coverage under qualifying previous coverage as a result of  
74 termination of employment or eligibility, the involuntary termination of the qualifying  
75 previous coverage, death of a spouse or divorce;

76 c. The individual requests enrollment within thirty days after termination of the  
77 qualifying previous coverage;

78 (b) The individual is employed by an employer that offers multiple health benefit  
79 plans and the individual elects a different plan during an open enrollment period; or

80 (c) A court has ordered coverage be provided for a spouse or minor or dependent child  
81 under a covered employee's health benefit plan and request for enrollment is made within  
82 thirty days after issuance of the court order;

83 (20) "New business premium rate" [means], for each class of business as to a rating  
84 period, the lowest premium rate charged or offered, or which could have been charged or  
85 offered, by the small employer carrier to small employers with similar case characteristics for  
86 newly issued health benefit plans with the same or similar coverage;

- 87           (21) "Plan of operation" [means], the plan of operation of the program established  
88 pursuant to sections 379.942 and 379.943;
- 89           (22) "Premium" [means], all moneys paid by a small employer and eligible employees  
90 as a condition of receiving coverage from a small employer carrier, including any fees or other  
91 contributions associated with the health benefit plan;
- 92           (23) "Producer" includes an insurance agent or broker;
- 93           (24) "Program" [means], the Missouri small employer health reinsurance program  
94 created pursuant to sections 379.942 and 379.943;
- 95           (25) "Qualifying previous coverage" and "qualifying existing coverage" [mean],  
96 benefits or coverage provided under:
- 97           (a) Medicare or Medicaid;
- 98           (b) An employer-based health insurance or health benefit arrangement that provides  
99 benefits similar to or exceeding benefits provided under the basic health benefit plan; or
- 100           (c) An individual health insurance policy (including coverage issued by a health  
101 maintenance organization, health services corporation or a fraternal benefit society) that  
102 provides benefits similar to or exceeding the benefits provided under the basic health benefit  
103 plan, provided that such policy has been in effect for a period of at least one year;
- 104           (26) "Rating period" [means], the calendar period for which premium rates  
105 established by a small employer carrier are assumed to be in effect;
- 106           (27) "Restricted network provision" [means], any provision of a health benefit plan  
107 that conditions the payment of benefits, in whole or in part, on the use of health care  
108 providers that have entered into a contractual arrangement with the carrier pursuant to  
109 section 354.400, RSMo, et seq. to provide health care services to covered individuals;
- 110           (28) "Small employer" [means], any person, firm, corporation, partnership or  
111 association that is actively engaged in business that, on at least fifty percent of its working  
112 days during the preceding calendar quarter, employed not less than [three] **two** nor more  
113 than [twenty-five] **fifty** eligible employees, the majority of whom were employed within this  
114 state. In determining the number of eligible employees, companies that are affiliated  
115 companies, or that are eligible to file a combined tax return for purposes of state taxation,  
116 shall be considered one employer;
- 117           (29) "Small employer carrier" [means], a carrier that offers health benefit plans  
118 covering eligible employees of one or more small employers in this state;
- 119           (30) "Standard health benefit plan" [means], a health benefit plan developed pursuant  
120 to section 379.944.

**Section 1. 1. All managed care organizations, as defined in section 198.530,  
2 RSMo, shall allow the enrollee the right to select a long-term care facility licensed**



3 pursuant to chapter 198, RSMo, with the same religious orientation as  
4 demonstrated by the enrollee. If a religiously appropriate facility is not included  
5 in the managed care organization's provider network and one is available, the  
6 managed care organization shall provide the enrollee the option to receive care  
7 from an out-of-network long-term care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 198,  
8 RSMo, if the following conditions apply:

9 (1) The facility is willing and able to provide the services to the resident;  
10 and

11 (2) The facility and those health care professionals delivering services to  
12 residents pursuant to this section meet the licensing and training standards as  
13 prescribed by law; and

14 (3) The facility is certified through Medicare; and

15 (4) The facility and those health care professionals delivering services to  
16 residents pursuant to this section agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the  
17 managed care organization's contracts with similar providers, abide by patient  
18 protection standards and requirements imposed by state or federal law for plan  
19 enrollees and meet the quality standards established by the managed care  
20 organization for similar providers.

21 2. The managed care organization shall reimburse the facility at a rate of  
22 reimbursement consistent with the carrier's contract with the Health Care  
23 Financing Administration for long-term care services.

[376.1400. 1. Every health insurance carrier offering policies of  
2 insurance in this state shall use standardized information for the explanation  
3 of benefits given to the health care provider whenever a claim is paid or  
4 denied. As used in this section, the term "health insurance carrier" shall have  
5 the meaning given to "health carrier" in section 376.1350. Nothing in this  
6 section shall apply to accident-only, specified disease, hospital indemnity,  
7 Medicare supplement, long-term care, short-term major medical policies of six  
8 months or less duration, other limited benefit health insurance policies.

9 2. The standardized information shall contain the following:

10 (1) The name of the insured;

11 (2) The insured's identification number;

12 (3) The date of service;

13 (4) Amount of charge;

14 (5) Explanation for any denial;

15 (6) The amount paid;

- 16 (7) The patient's full name;  
17 (8) The name and address of the insurer; and  
18 (9) The phone number to contact for questions on explanation of  
19 benefits.

20 3. All health insurance carriers shall use the standard explanation of  
21 benefits information after January 1, 2002.]

[376.1403. 1. Every health care provider and health carrier that  
2 conducts business in this state shall use standardized information for  
3 referrals. As used in this section, the terms "health care provider" and "health  
4 carrier" shall have the meaning given to such terms in section 376.1350.

5 2. The referral information shall contain the following:

- 6 (1) The name of the insured;  
7 (2) The name, address and phone number of the health carrier;  
8 (3) The identification number and group number of the insured;  
9 (4) The type of referral;  
10 (5) The name, address and phone number of the health care provider  
11 referring the insured;  
12 (6) The name, address and phone number of the health care provider  
13 to whom the insured was referred to;  
14 (7) The number of visits requested and authorized; and  
15 (8) The health carrier's authorization number.

16 3. All health care providers and health carriers shall use the  
17 standardized referral information after January 1, 2002.]

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