

HCS HB 400 -- DENTAL CARVE-OUT ACT (Yates)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Insurance Policy

This substitute establishes the Dental Carve-Out Act of 2005 and requires the Division of Medical Services in the Department of Social Services to maintain and implement a process for managing dental benefits for public assistance recipients. The division must contract with a single-source, private entity to provide dental program management services in coordination with the division. Entities submitting a bid for the program must be actuarially sound and provide proof of an adequacy network. The Attorney General will have full prosecutorial authority over any provider or recipient in the program. The division is allowed to place coverage limits on dental services and must establish a statewide uniform dental program administered by a single, private entity. The private entity cannot discriminate against any dentist willing to meet the terms and conditions of the program. The division, however, may not require a dentist to alter a patient's previously authorized course of treatment unless warranted by the patient's condition.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$106,363 in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.