HB 2418 -- Quality of Care Data for Health Insurance

Sponsor: Onder

This bill establishes the standards for use of data that measures the quality of health care services delivered by health care providers and health insurance carriers. In its main provisions, the bill:

 Prohibits a health insurance carrier from stipulating by contract that a health care provider must submit quality of care (QOC) data to the carrier in order to receive payments for services delivered. This provision cannot supersede any federal QOC requirements currently in place;

(2) Requires individuals that distribute QOC data to the public, with the exception of the federal Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services quality of care data set, to include a disclaimer, the peer review process used, and the consent and comments of health care providers about the QOC methodology that was used to evaluate the data;

(3) Specifies that the Department of Health and Senior Services will investigate and impose a penalty of up to \$1,000 for any violation of the distribution of QOC data by a person other than a health carrier;

(4) Requires quality of care programs established by health insurance carriers to disclose performance and quality measures, the weights and ratings given to each measure, and the methodology behind the performance rankings;

(5) Requires carriers to notify health care providers at least 45 days prior to implementing a QOC program and all quality of performance data or cost-efficiency data to be risk-adjusted for patient behaviors and conditions;

(6) Specifies that quality of performance indicators will determine which provider will be accountable for a patient's care in cases where a patient has multiple health care providers;

(7) Requires carriers to allow providers to review and appeal any data prior to being disclosed to the public and the data to be presented to reflect providers within the same geographic market; and

(8) Specifies that violations of improper disclosure of QOC data by a health carrier will be investigated and enforced by the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions, and Professional Registration.