

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1894
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5004H.02C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to health care provider participation in health insurance plans.

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

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 376.1583, to read as follows:

**376.1583. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "Patients First Act".**

**3 2. The department of commerce and insurance shall implement and enforce the
4 nondiscrimination protections in Section 2706 of the federal Public Health Service Act,
5 42 U.S.C. Section 300gg-5, by ensuring that no group health plan or health insurance
6 issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage shall discriminate with
7 respect to participation under the plan or coverage against any health care provider
8 who is acting within the scope of that provider's license or certification under state law.**

**9 3. (1) A health benefit plan, as defined in section 376.1350, shall not discriminate
10 against a health care provider based on the provider's licensure with respect to
11 reimbursement or participation in any plan or insurance program.**

**12 (2) All health care providers shall be reimbursed at the same rate for the same
13 service as long as such service is within the provider's scope of practice under state law.**

**14 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a group health plan or a
15 health insurance issuer from establishing varying reimbursement rates based on quality
16 or performance measures.**

**17 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a group health plan or
18 health insurance issuer to accept any willing provider into a network.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 **4. Nothing in this section shall apply to physicians licensed under chapter 334.**

20 **5. The department of commerce and insurance may promulgate all necessary**
21 **rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a**
22 **rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority**
23 **delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to**
24 **all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and**
25 **chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly**
26 **pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul**
27 **a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority**
28 **and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.**

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