

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 22, 1999

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1664

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1664 -- By EDDINS.

An Act relating to insurance; amending Section 1, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 1998 (36 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 6060.6), which relates to coverage of dental procedures for certain minors and severely disabled persons; modifying coverage for certain physician expenses; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 66, O.S.L. 1998 (36 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 6060.6), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6060.6 A. Any health benefit plan that is offered, issued or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 1999, that provides hospitalization benefits shall provide coverage for anesthesia expenses including physician expenses for the administration of the anesthesia, and hospital and ambulatory surgical center expenses, ~~and physician expenses~~ associated with any medically necessary dental procedure when provided to a covered person who is:

1. Severely disabled; or
2. A minor eight (8) years of age or under,

and who has a medical or emotional condition which requires hospitalization or general anesthesia for dental care.

B. A health benefit plan may require prior authorization for either inpatient or outpatient hospitalization for dental care in the same manner that prior authorization is required for hospitalization for other covered diseases or conditions.

C. Coverage provided for in subsection A of this section shall be subject to the same annual deductibles, copayments or coinsurance limits as established for all other covered benefits under the health benefit plan.

D. As used in this section, "health benefit plan" means any plan or arrangement as defined in subsection C of Section 6060.4 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, dated 2-18-99 -- DO PASS.