

An Act relating to health care; requiring insurance contracts and health benefit plans, state Medicaid contracts, Medicare risk contracts, managed care contracts, and preferred provider contracts which include services for vision care or medical treatment and diagnosis for the eye to allow optometrists to be providers of and to receive equal payment for certain services within the scope of practice of optometry; requiring insurance contracts and health benefit plans, state Medicaid contracts, Medicare risk contracts, managed care contracts, and preferred provider contracts, to give the patient a choice between ophthalmologists and optometrists; prohibiting insurance contracts and health benefit plans, state Medicaid contracts, Medicare risk contracts, managed care contracts, and preferred provider contracts, which require optometrists to meet qualifications which are in addition to requirements for licensure; prohibiting construction which prevents determination of adequacy of network; prohibiting construction which would limit or expand practice of optometry; requiring extensions and renewals of insurance contracts and health benefit plans, state Medicaid contracts, Medicare risk contracts, managed care contracts, and preferred provider contracts, to comply with requirements; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.