

An Act relating to health care; amending 63 O.S. 1991, Section 2505, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 404, O.S.L. 1997 (63 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 2505), which relates to health maintenance organizations; requiring insurance contracts and health benefit plans, Medicaid contracts, managed care contracts, preferred provider contracts, state-purchased and state-subsidized health plans and other health plans 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 compensation for certain services within the scope of practice of optometry; providing for construction of section; requiring a patient choice between ophthalmologists and optometrists; requiring certain set of standards and procedures; requiring certain drafting content; prohibiting insurance contracts and health benefit plans, managed care contracts, preferred provider contracts, state-purchased and state-subsidized health plans, Medicaid contracts and other health plans which require optometrists to meet qualifications which are in addition to requirements for licensure; prohibiting construction which prevents determination of adequacy of network; providing for equal compensation; providing for construction of section; prohibiting construction which would limit or expand practice of optometry; requiring extensions and renewals of insurance contracts and health benefit plans, managed care contracts, preferred provider contracts and other health plans to comply with requirements; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.