

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

SENATE BILL NO. 277

By: Morgan

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to employee benefits; amending Section 2, Chapter 297, O.S.L. 1998 (74 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1306.3), which relates to the Payment Rate Review Task Force; deleting obsolete language; clarifying language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 297, O.S.L. 1998 (74 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1306.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1306.3 A. The Joint Liaison Committee on State and Education Employees Group Insurance Benefits shall create the Payment Rate Review Task Force, which shall review all payments made to providers of medical care by the ~~Oklahoma~~ State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. The Task Force shall be composed of independent experts appointed by the Joint Liaison Committee on State and Education Employees Group Insurance Benefits. The Task Force shall annually review applicable changes in payment rates which will affect hospital inpatient and outpatient payment methodologies.

B. The Task Force shall study and make recommendations, as part of its annual report, regarding new institutional reimbursement policy and changes in each existing reimbursement policy by the Oklahoma State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board under which payments to an institution are made.

C. ~~No later than September 1 of each year, the~~ The Task Force shall submit a report to the Joint Liaison Committee on State and Education Employees Group Insurance Benefits ~~containing~~ no later than September 1 of each year. The report shall contain an examination of issues affecting health care delivery to state and education employees in Oklahoma, including issues related to:

1. Trends in health care costs;

2. The financial condition of hospitals and the effect of the payments made to hospitals under this act on such condition;

3. Trends in the use of health care services under the Oklahoma State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board health plans;
and

4. New methods used by employers, insurers, and others to address the use of health care services.

The Task Force shall make, as part of its annual report, recommendations to the Joint Liaison Committee on State and Education Employees Group Insurance Benefits concerning appropriate changes in reimbursement rates which should be used for inpatient and outpatient hospital services.

D. The Task Force shall consist of nine (9) members. The membership of the Task Force shall include individuals with recognized expertise in health economics, health facility management, reimbursement of health facilities or other providers of services which reflect the scope of the Task Force's responsibilities, a balance of urban and rural representatives, including hospital administrators, physicians, and registered nurses, employers, third-party payors, individuals skilled in the conduct and interpretation of biomedical, health services, and health economics research, and individuals having expertise in the research and development of technological and scientific advances in health care.

E. In order to identify medically appropriate patterns of health resources, the Task Force shall collect and assess information on medical and surgical procedures and services, including information on variations of medical practice and lengths of hospitalization and on other patient care data, giving special attention to treatment patterns for conditions which appear to involve excessively costly or inappropriate services not adding to the quality of care provided. The Task Force shall give special attention to the needs of updating existing diagnosis-related groups and establishing new diagnosis-related groups, to reflect appropriate differences in resource consumption in delivering safe, efficacious and cost-effective care.

F. In order to conduct its duties, the Task Force shall have unrestricted access to all payment rate information of the ~~Oklahoma~~ State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board immediately upon request.

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.

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