

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 1709

By: Ritze of the House

3 and

4 Yen of the Senate  
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7 An Act relating to insurance; prohibiting an  
8 insurance company from requiring practitioners to be  
9 granted hospital privileges or join a hospital staff;  
10 defining terms; providing for codification; and  
11 providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6020 of Title 36, unless there  
15 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16 A. An insurer shall not require a practitioner to be granted  
17 privileges by any hospital to admit inpatients or join any hospital  
18 staff as a condition precedent to the inclusion of the practitioner  
19 as a provider under the insurance network or plan or to the payment  
20 or reimbursement of a claim under the policy, certificate or  
21 contract.

22 B. For purposes of this section:

23 1. "Hospital" means any institution, place, building or agency  
24 in this state, public or private, whether organized for profit or

1 not, devoted primarily to the maintenance and operation of  
2 facilities for the diagnosis, treatment or care of patients admitted  
3 for overnight stay or longer in order to obtain medical care,  
4 surgical care, obstetrical care or nursing care for illness,  
5 disease, injury, infirmity or deformity;

6 2. "Insurer" means any entity that provides an accident and  
7 health insurance policy in this state, including but not limited to  
8 a licensed insurance company, a not-for-profit hospital service  
9 and/or medical indemnity corporation, a fraternal benefit society, a  
10 multiple employer welfare arrangement or any other entity subject to  
11 regulation by the Insurance Commissioner;

12 3. "Insurance network or plan" means a network or plan where  
13 practitioners have entered into a contract with an insurer to  
14 provide health care services under the terms and conditions  
15 established in the contract; and

16 4. "Practitioner" means any person holding a valid license to  
17 practice medicine and admit inpatients to hospitals in this state.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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1 Passed the House of Representatives the 20th day of February,  
2017.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate