

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

HOUSE BILL 1709

By: Ritze

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to insurance; prohibiting an insurance company from requiring practitioners to be granted hospital privileges or join a hospital staff; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

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

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

B. For purposes of this section:

1. "Hospital" means any institution, place, building or agency 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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