

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bates, Kruse, Morse, Shields, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Brian Niebuurt, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/9, 4/14, 4/18, 4/20, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Exempts retainer medical practices from application of the Insurance Code. Requires retainer medical practices to be certified with the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS). Outlines retainer medical practices permissible and impermissible operations. Defines qualifications for certification. Requires retainer medical practices to include disclosures in marketing materials and retainer medical agreements. Allows DCBS to deny, suspend or revoke retainer medical practice certificates or refuse to renew certificates. Allows DCBS to investigate, subpoena documents and records and take actions authorized by the Insurance Code. Allows DCBS to adopt rules. Requires retainer medical practices to notify DCBS immediately whenever: (a) the license of a provider is denied, suspended, revoked or not renewed; or (b) the authority of the practice to operate in another jurisdiction is denied, suspended, revoked or not renewed. Requires retainer medical practice to notify DCBS no later than 30 days after any change to the name, address or contact information that is provided in the certification application. Allows retainer medical practices to exhaust supply of marketing materials created prior to the effective date of the Act. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Retainer medical practice pilot project in Lane County
- Consumer protection concerns
- Role of retainer medical practices in health care delivery system
- Concern about reduction in number of primary care practitioners
- Potential efficiencies of retainer medical practices
- Potential reduction in barrier to care for consumers
- Rate of utilization for retainer medicine practitioners

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds outline of permissible and impermissible operations. Allows retainer medical practices to exhaust supply of marketing materials created prior to the effective date of the Act.

BACKGROUND: Retainer medical practices charge patients a monthly or annual fee in exchange for a defined package of medical services. These practices have been increasing in number around the country. Retainer medical practices could be subject to the Insurance Code because physicians operating these practices do accept risk and therefore the arrangements could be considered insurance.

Senate Bill 86-A exempts retainer medical practices from application of the Insurance Code if the practice is certified by DCBS.

4/29/2011 10:32:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.