Enrolled
Senate Bill 94

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CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to uniform standards for health care transactions; creating new provisions; amending ORS 731.036, 750.055 and 750.333; repealing sections 1192 and 1193, chapter 595, Oregon Laws 2009; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2011 Act is added to and made a part of the Insurance Code.

SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Consumer and Business Services may adopt by rule uniform standards applicable to persons listed in subsection (2) of this section for health care financial and administrative transactions, including uniform standards for:

(a) Eligibility inquiry and response;

(b) Claim submission;

(c) Payment remittance advice;

(d) Claims payment or electronic funds transfer;

(e) Claims status inquiry and response;

(f) Claims attachments;

(g) Prior authorization;

(h) Provider credentialing; or

(i) Health care financial and administrative transactions identified by the stakeholder work group described in section 3 of this 2011 Act.

(2) Any uniform standards adopted under subsection (1) of this section apply to:

(a) Health insurers.

(b) Prepaid managed care health services organizations as defined in ORS 414.736.

(c) Third party administrators.

(d) Any person or public body that either individually or jointly establishes a self-insurance plan, program or contract, including but not limited to persons and public bodies that are otherwise exempt from the Insurance Code under ORS 731.036.

(e) Health care clearinghouses or other entities that process or facilitate the processing of health care financial and administrative transactions from a nonstandard format to a standard format.

(f) Any other person identified by the department that processes health care financial and administrative transactions between a health care provider and an entity described in this subsection.

(3) In developing or updating any uniform standards adopted under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall consider recommendations from the Oregon Health Authority under section 3 of this 2011 Act.

SECTION 3. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall convene a stakeholder work group to recommend uniform standards for health care financial and administrative transactions, including, to the extent allowed by law, standards applicable to commercial health insurance plans, self-funded plans and state governmental health plans and programs.

(2) The authority shall report uniform standards recommended under subsection (1) of this section to the Department of Consumer and Business Services for consideration in the adoption of uniform standards by the department under section 2 of this 2011 Act.

(3) The stakeholder work group, in recommending uniform standards under subsection (1) of this section, shall consider or incorporate any applicable national standards for administrative simplification and timelines for implementation of national standards for administrative simplification that are established pursuant to federal law.

SECTION 4. Uniform standards adopted by the Department of Consumer and Business Services under section 2 of this 2011 Act apply to health care financial and administrative transactions that occur on or after January 1, 2012.

SECTION 5. (1) The Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Oregon Health Authority shall confer before the department finalizes rules implementing uniform standards under section 2 of this 2011 Act, for the purpose of reconciling any differences between the department's and the authority's requirements for health care financial and administrative transactions described in section 2 of this 2011 Act. If the Department of Consumer and Business Services proposes to amend any rule concerning uniform standards for health care financial and administrative transactions under section 2 of this 2011 Act or the authority proposes to amend any rule in a manner that would be inconsistent with the uniform standards, the agency proposing to amend the rules shall notify the other agency. The agencies shall confer before a final rule is adopted to ensure that the standards remain uniform and consistent to the extent practicable.

(2) The Department of Human Services shall be subject to the uniform standards adopted by the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the authority under section 2 of this 2011 Act that are applicable to the operations of the Department of Human Services.

SECTION 6. ORS 731.036 is amended to read:

731.036. **Except as provided in section 2 of this 2011 Act or as specifically provided by law,** the Insurance Code does not apply to any of the following to the extent of the subject matter of the exemption:

(1) A bail bondsman, other than a corporate surety and its agents.

(2) A fraternal benefit society that has maintained lodges in this state and other states for 50 years prior to January 1, 1961, and for which a certificate of authority was not required on that date.

(3) A religious organization providing insurance benefits only to its employees, which organization is in existence and exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code on September 13, 1975.

(4) Public bodies, as defined in ORS 30.260, that either individually or jointly establish a self-insurance program for tort liability in accordance with ORS 30.282.

(5) Public bodies, as defined in ORS 30.260, that either individually or jointly establish a self-insurance program for property damage in accordance with ORS 30.282.

(6) Cities, counties, school districts, community college districts, community college service districts or districts, as defined in ORS 198.010 and 198.180, that either individually or jointly insure for health insurance coverage, excluding disability insurance, their employees or retired employees, or their dependents, or students engaged in school activities, or combination of employees and dependents, with or without employee or student contributions, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The individual or jointly self-insured program meets the following minimum requirements:

(A) In the case of a school district, community college district or community college service district, the number of covered employees and dependents and retired employees and dependents aggregates at least 500 individuals;

(B) In the case of an individual public body program other than a school district, community college district or community college service district, the number of covered employees and dependents and retired employees and dependents aggregates at least 500 individuals; and

(C) In the case of a joint program of two or more public bodies, the number of covered employees and dependents and retired employees and dependents aggregates at least 1,000 individuals;

(b) The individual or jointly self-insured health insurance program includes all coverages and benefits required of group health insurance policies under ORS chapters 743 and 743A;

(c) The individual or jointly self-insured program must have program documents that define program benefits and administration;

(d) Enrollees must be provided copies of summary plan descriptions including:

(A) Written general information about services provided, access to services, charges and scheduling applicable to each enrollee's coverage;

(B) The program's grievance and appeal process; and

(C) Other group health plan enrollee rights, disclosure or written procedure requirements established under ORS chapters 743 and 743A;

(e) The financial administration of an individual or jointly self-insured program must include the following requirements:

(A) Program contributions and reserves must be held in separate accounts and used for the exclusive benefit of the program;

(B) The program must maintain adequate reserves. Reserves may be invested in accordance with the provisions of ORS chapter 293. Reserve adequacy must be calculated annually with proper actuarial calculations including the following:

(i) Known claims, paid and outstanding;

(ii) A history of incurred but not reported claims;

(iii) Claims handling expenses;

(iv) Unearned contributions; and

(v) A claims trend factor; and

(C) The program must maintain adequate reinsurance against the risk of economic loss in accordance with the provisions of ORS 742.065 unless the program has received written approval for an alternative arrangement for protection against economic loss from the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services;

(f) The individual or jointly self-insured program must have sufficient personnel to service the employee benefit program or must contract with a third party administrator licensed under ORS chapter 744 as a third party administrator to provide such services;

(g) The individual or jointly self-insured program shall be subject to assessment in accordance with ORS 735.614 and 743.951 and former enrollees shall be eligible for portability coverage in accordance with ORS 735.616;

(h) The public body, or the program administrator in the case of a joint insurance program of two or more public bodies, files with the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services copies of all documents creating and governing the program, all forms used to communicate the coverage to beneficiaries, the schedule of payments established to support the program and, annually, a financial report showing the total incurred cost of the program for the preceding year. A copy of the annual audit required by ORS 297.425 may be used to satisfy the financial report filing requirement; and

(i) Each public body in a joint insurance program is liable only to its own employees and no others for benefits under the program in the event, and to the extent, that no further funds, including funds from insurance policies obtained by the pool, are available in the joint insurance pool.

(7) All ambulance services.

(8) A person providing any of the services described in this subsection. The exemption under this subsection does not apply to an authorized insurer providing such services under an insurance policy. This subsection applies to the following services:

(a) Towing service.

(b) Emergency road service, which means adjustment, repair or replacement of the equipment, tires or mechanical parts of a motor vehicle in order to permit the motor vehicle to be operated under its own power.

(c) Transportation and arrangements for the transportation of human remains, including all necessary and appropriate preparations for and actual transportation provided to return a decedent's remains from the decedent's place of death to a location designated by a person with valid legal authority under ORS 97.130.

(9)(a) A person described in this subsection who, in an agreement to lease or to finance the purchase of a motor vehicle, agrees to waive for no additional charge the amount specified in paragraph (b) of this subsection upon total loss of the motor vehicle because of physical damage, theft or other occurrence, as specified in the agreement. The exemption established in this subsection applies to the following persons:

(A) The seller of the motor vehicle, if the sale is made pursuant to a motor vehicle retail installment contract.

(B) The lessor of the motor vehicle.

(C) The lender who finances the purchase of the motor vehicle.

(D) The assignee of a person described in this paragraph.

(b) The amount waived pursuant to the agreement shall be the difference, or portion thereof, between the amount received by the seller, lessor, lender or assignee, as applicable, which represents the actual cash value of the motor vehicle at the date of loss, and the amount owed under the agreement.

(10) A self-insurance program for tort liability or property damage that is established by two or more affordable housing entities and that complies with the same requirements that public bodies must meet under ORS 30.282 (6). As used in this subsection:

(a) "Affordable housing" means housing projects in which some of the dwelling units may be purchased or rented, with or without government assistance, on a basis that is affordable to individuals of low income.

(b) "Affordable housing entity" means any of the following:

(A) A housing authority created under the laws of this state or another jurisdiction and any agency or instrumentality of a housing authority, including but not limited to a legal entity created to conduct a self-insurance program for housing authorities that complies with ORS 30.282 (6).

(B) A nonprofit corporation that is engaged in providing affordable housing.

(C) A partnership or limited liability company that is engaged in providing affordable housing and that is affiliated with a housing authority described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph or a nonprofit corporation described in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph if the housing authority or nonprofit corporation:

(i) Has, or has the right to acquire, a financial or ownership interest in the partnership or limited liability company;

(ii) Has the power to direct the management or policies of the partnership or limited liability company;

(iii) Has entered into a contract to lease, manage or operate the affordable housing owned by the partnership or limited liability company; or

(iv) Has any other material relationship with the partnership or limited liability company.

(11) A community-based health care initiative approved by the Administrator of the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research under ORS 735.723 operating a community-based health care improvement program approved by the administrator.

SECTION 7. ORS 750.055 is amended to read:

750.055. (1) The following provisions of the Insurance Code apply to health care service contractors to the extent not inconsistent with the express provisions of ORS 750.005 to 750.095:

(a) ORS 705.137, 705.139, 731.004 to 731.150, 731.162, 731.216 to 731.362, 731.382, 731.385, 731.386, 731.390, 731.398 to 731.430, 731.428, 731.450, 731.454, 731.488, 731.504, 731.508, 731.509, 731.510, 731.511, 731.512, 731.574 to 731.620, 731.592, 731.594, 731.640 to 731.652, 731.730, 731.731, 731.735, 731.737, 731.750, 731.752, 731.804, 731.844 to 731.992 and 731.870 **and section 2 of this 2011 Act**.

(b) ORS 732.215, 732.220, 732.230, 732.245, 732.250, 732.320, 732.325 and 732.517 to 732.592, not including ORS 732.582.

(c) ORS 733.010 to 733.050, 733.080, 733.140 to 733.170, 733.210, 733.510 to 733.680 and 733.695 to 733.780.

(d) ORS chapter 734.

(e) ORS 742.001 to 742.009, 742.013, 742.061, 742.065, 742.150 to 742.162, 742.400, 742.520 to 742.540, 743.010, 743.013, 743.018 to 743.030, 743.050, 743.100 to 743.109, 743.402, 743.472, 743.492, 743.495, 743.498, 743.522, 743.523, 743.524, 743.526, 743.527, 743.528, 743.529, 743.549 to 743.552, 743.560, 743.600 to 743.610, 743.650 to 743.656, 743.804, 743.807, 743.808, 743.814 to 743.839, 743.842, 743.845, 743.847, 743.854, 743.856, 743.857, 743.858, 743.859, 743.861, 743.862, 743.863, 743.864, 743.911, 743.912, 743.913, 743.917, 743A.010, 743A.012, 743A.020, 743A.036, 743A.048, 743A.058, 743A.062, 743A.064, 743A.066, 743A.068, 743A.070, 743A.080, 743A.084, 743A.088, 743A.090, 743A.100, 743A.104, 743A.105, 743A.110, 743A.140, 743A.141, 743A.144, 743A.148, 743A.160, 743A.164, 743A.168, 743A.170, 743A.175, 743A.184, 743A.188, 743A.190 and 743A.192.

(f) The provisions of ORS chapter 744 relating to the regulation of insurance producers.

(g) ORS 746.005 to 746.140, 746.160, 746.220 to 746.370, 746.600, 746.605, 746.607, 746.608, 746.610, 746.615, 746.625, 746.635, 746.650, 746.655, 746.660, 746.668, 746.670, 746.675, 746.680 and 746.690.

(h) ORS 743A.024, except in the case of group practice health maintenance organizations that are federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Public Health Service Act unless the patient is referred by a physician associated with a group practice health maintenance organization.

(i) ORS 735.600 to 735.650.

(j) ORS 743.680 to 743.689.

(k) ORS 744.700 to 744.740.

(L) ORS 743.730 to 743.773.

(m) ORS 731.485, except in the case of a group practice health maintenance organization that is federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Public Health Service Act and that wholly owns and operates an in-house drug outlet.

(2) For the purposes of this section, health care service contractors shall be deemed insurers.

(3) Any for-profit health care service contractor organized under the laws of any other state that is not governed by the insurance laws of the other state is subject to all requirements of ORS chapter 732.

(4) The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services may, after notice and hearing, adopt reasonable rules not inconsistent with this section and ORS 750.003, 750.005, 750.025 and 750.045 that are deemed necessary for the proper administration of these provisions.

SECTION 8. ORS 750.333 is amended to read:

750.333. (1) The following provisions of the Insurance Code apply to trusts carrying out a multiple employer welfare arrangement:

(a) ORS 731.004 to 731.150, 731.162, 731.216 to 731.268, 731.296 to 731.316, 731.324, 731.328, 731.378, 731.386, 731.390, 731.398, 731.406, 731.410, 731.414, 731.418 to 731.434, 731.454, 731.484, 731.486, 731.488, 731.512, 731.574 to 731.620, 731.640 to 731.652 and 731.804 to 731.992 **and section 2 of this 2011 Act**.

(b) ORS 733.010 to 733.050, 733.140 to 733.170, 733.210, 733.510 to 733.680 and 733.695 to 733.780.

(c) ORS chapter 734.

(d) ORS 742.001 to 742.009, 742.013, 742.061 and 742.400.

(e) ORS 743.028, 743.053, 743.524, 743.526, 743.527, 743.528, 743.529, 743.530, 743.560, 743.562, 743.600, 743.601, 743.602, 743.610, 743.730 to 743.773 (except 743.760 to 743.773), 743.801, 743.804,

743.807, 743.808, 743.814 to 743.839, 743.842, 743.845, 743.847, 743.854, 743.856, 743.857, 743.858, 743.859, 743.861, 743.862, 743.863, 743.864, 743.912, 743.917, 743A.012, 743A.020, 743A.052, 743A.064, 743A.080, 743A.100, 743A.104, 743A.110, 743A.144, 743A.170, 743A.175, 743A.184 and 743A.192.

(f) ORS 743A.010, 743A.014, 743A.024, 743A.028, 743A.032, 743A.036, 743A.040, 743A.048, 743A.058, 743A.066, 743A.068, 743A.070, 743A.084, 743A.088, 743A.090, 743A.105, 743A.140, 743A.141, 743A.148, 743A.168, 743A.180, 743A.188 and 743A.190. Multiple employer welfare arrangements to which ORS 743.730 to 743.773 apply are subject to the sections referred to in this paragraph only as provided in ORS 743.730 to 743.773.

(g) Provisions of ORS chapter 744 relating to the regulation of insurance producers and insurance consultants, and ORS 744.700 to 744.740.

(h) ORS 746.005 to 746.140, 746.160 and 746.220 to 746.370.

(i) ORS 731.592 and 731.594.

(j) ORS 731.870.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) A trust carrying out a multiple employer welfare arrangement shall be considered an insurer.

(b) References to certificates of authority shall be considered references to certificates of multiple employer welfare arrangement.

(c) Contributions shall be considered premiums.

(3) The provision of health benefits under ORS 750.301 to 750.341 shall be considered to be the transaction of health insurance.

SECTION 9. Sections 1192 and 1193, chapter 595, Oregon Laws 2009, are repealed.

SECTION 10. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by Senate April 5, 2011

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Robert Taylor, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House May 18, 2011

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Bruce Hanna, Speaker of House

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Arnie Roblan, Speaker of House

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John Kitzhaber, Governor

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Kate Brown, Secretary of State