

Senate Bill 153

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Clarifies definition of "independent practice" for purpose of insurance reimbursement for services provided by licensed physician assistant or certified nurse practitioner.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to reimbursement of primary care services; amending ORS 743A.036.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 743A.036 is amended to read:

5 743A.036. (1) Whenever any policy of health insurance provides for reimbursement for a primary
6 care or mental health service provided by a licensed physician, the insured under the policy is en-
7 titled to reimbursement for such service if provided by a licensed physician assistant or a certified
8 nurse practitioner if the service is within the lawful scope of practice of the physician assistant or
9 nurse practitioner.

10 (2)(a) The reimbursement of a service described in subsection (1) of this section that is provided
11 by a licensed physician assistant or a certified nurse practitioner who is in an independent practice
12 shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician
13 performing the service in the area served.

14 (b) As used in this subsection, "independent practice" means the [*provision of health care services*
15 *to patients in a setting in which the*] licensed physician assistant or the certified nurse practitioner
16 bills insurers for services [*identified by*] **provided by the physician assistant or nurse practi-**
17 **tioner using the:**

18 (A) Diagnosis and procedure codes [*using the*] **applicable to the services;**

19 (B) Physician assistant's or nurse practitioner's own name; and

20 (C) National provider identifier[.] **for the:**

21 (i) **Physician assistant or nurse practitioner; or**

22 (ii) **Facility in which the physician assistant or nurse practitioner provides the services.**

23 (3) This section does not apply to group practice health maintenance organizations that are
24 federally qualified pursuant to Title XIII of the Health Maintenance Organization Act or other
25 insurers that employ physicians, licensed physician assistants or certified nurse practitioners to
26 provide primary care or mental health services and do not compensate such practitioners on a fee-
27 for-service basis.

28 (4) An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply
29 with this section.
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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.