HEALTH REFORM - UNIFORM ELECTRONIC STANDARDS - INSURANCE INFORMATION

2010 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Merlynn T. Newbold
Senate Sponsor: Peter C. Knudson

LONG TITLE

General Description:
This bill amends provisions related to the use of uniform electronic standards for health insurance claims processing, insurance eligibility, and coordination of benefits.

Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
- amends provisions related to uniform electronic standards for health insurance claims processing, electronic insurance eligibility information, and electronic information regarding the coordination of benefits;
- establishes a voluntary registry of software vendors who comply with electronic standards; and
- makes clarifying and technical amendments.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
None

Other Special Clauses:
None

Utah Code Sections Affected:
AMENDS:
31A-22-614.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapters 379 and 382

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 31A-22-614.5 is amended to read:
31A-22-614.5. Uniform claims processing -- Electronic exchange of health information.

(1) (a) [Beginning July 1, 1993] Except as provided in Subsection (1)(c), all insurers offering health insurance shall use a uniform claim form and uniform billing and claim codes.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2011, all health benefit plans, and dental and vision plans, shall provide for the electronic exchange of uniform:

(i) eligibility and coverage information; and

(ii) coordination of benefits information.

(c) For purposes of Subsection (1)(a), “health insurance” does not include a policy or certificate that provides benefits solely for:

(i) income replacement; or

(ii) long-term care.

(2) (a) The uniform electronic standards and information required in Subsection (1) shall be adopted and approved by the commissioner in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act. [The]

(b) When adopting rules under this section the commissioner:

(i) shall;

(A) consult with [the director of the Division of Health Care Financing, the National Uniform Claim Form Task Force, and the National Uniform Billing Committee when adopting the uniform claims and billing codes] national and state organizations involved with the standardized exchange of health data, and the electronic exchange of health data, to develop the standards for the use and electronic exchange of uniform:

(I) claim forms;

(II) billing and claim codes;

(III) insurance eligibility and coverage information; and

(IV) coordination of benefits information; and

(B) meet federal mandatory minimum standards following the adoption of national requirements for transaction and data elements in the federal Health Insurance Portability and

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(ii) may not require an insurer or administrator to use a specific software product or
vendor; and
(iii) may require an insurer who participates in the all payer database created under
Section 26-33a-106.1 to allow data regarding demographic and insurance coverage
information to be electronically shared with the state's designated secure health information
master person index to be used:
(A) in compliance with data security standards established by:
(I) the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L.
104-191, 110 Stat. 1936; and
(II) the electronic commerce agreements established in a business associate agreement;
and
(B) for the purpose of coordination of health benefit plans.
[(3) (a) (i) Beginning July 1, 1995, all insurers shall offer compatible systems of
electronic billing approved by the commissioner in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,
Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.]
[(ii) The systems approved by the commissioner may include monitoring and
disseminating information concerning eligibility and coverage of individuals:]
[(iii) (3) (a) The commissioner shall coordinate the administrative rules adopted
under the provisions of this section with the administrative rules adopted by the Department of
Health for the implementation of the standards for the electronic exchange of clinical health
information under Section 26-1-37. The department shall establish procedures for developing
the rules adopted under this section, which ensure that the Department of Health is given the
opportunity to comment on proposed rules.
(b) (i) The commissioner may provide information to health care providers regarding
resources available to a health care provider to verify whether a health care provider's practice
management software system meets the uniform electronic standards for data exchange
required by this section.
The commissioner may provide the information described in Subsection (3)(b)(i) by partnering with:

(A) a not-for-profit, broad based coalition of state health care insurers and health care providers who are involved in the electronic exchange of the data required by this section; or

(B) some other person that the commissioner determines is appropriate to provide the information described in Subsection (3)(b)(i).

The commissioner shall regulate any fees charged by insurers to the providers for:

(i) uniform claim forms;

(ii) electronic billing; or

(iii) the electronic exchange of clinical health information permitted by Section 26-1-37.