



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 173

LCO No. 1500

01500_____INS

Referred to Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Introduced by:
(INS)

AN ACT CONCERNING STANDARDS IN CONTRACTS BETWEEN HEALTH INSURERS AND PHYSICIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2009*) (a) As used in this
2 section: (1) "Contracting health organization" means (A) a managed
3 care organization, as defined in section 38a-478 of the general statutes,
4 or (B) a preferred provider network, as defined in section 38a-479aa of
5 the general statutes; and (2) "physician" means a physician or surgeon,
6 chiropractor, podiatrist, psychologist or optometrist.

7 (b) No contract for services to be provided to residents of this state
8 entered into, renewed, amended or modified on or after January 1,
9 2009, between a contracting health organization and a physician shall
10 include any provision that (1) allows the contracting health
11 organization to unilaterally change any term or provision of the
12 contract, including, but not limited to, (A) fee schedules or provider
13 panels, without written justification and the opportunity for appeal by
14 the physician, or (B) any right of the physician to discuss and negotiate
15 the terms of any contract or the opportunity for the physician to
16 terminate a contract before any amendment becomes effective, except

17 that if the physician chooses to terminate the contract before such
18 amendment becomes effective, such amendment shall not be binding
19 on the physician during any period the physician's obligations
20 continue under the contract, (2) allows the contracting health
21 organization to reduce the level of service coded on a claim submitted
22 by a physician without conducting a reasonable investigation based on
23 all available medical records pertaining to the claim, or (3) delays
24 payment beyond forty-five days after a claim is filed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2009</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish standards for contracts between health insurers and physicians.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]