

HCS SB 508 -- HEALTH INSURANCE

(Vetoed by the Governor)

This bill changes the laws regarding health insurance.

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD FEE (Section 43.530, RSMo)

The bill requires the Department of Public Safety to charge a fee of \$14 to the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration for each criminal history record requested on a health insurance navigator license applicant.

STATE LEGAL EXPENSE FUND (Section 105.711)

Currently, for the purposes of the State Legal Expense Fund a "free health clinic" means a nonprofit community health center exempt from federal taxation that provides primary care and preventative services to people without health insurance without charge. The bill changes the term "free health clinic" to "community health clinic" and removes the without charge requirement. The bill excludes specified federally funded community health centers and rural health clinics from the organizations that are eligible to receive payment of a claim from the fund.

STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (Sections 208.631 - 208.646)

The bill removes references to the Uninsured Women's Health Program in the provisions regarding the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Currently, the provisions regarding SCHIP define "uninsured children" as persons up to 19 years of age who meet specified criteria or persons whose parent or guardian have not had access to affordable health care coverage for their children for six months prior to application for the program. The bill removes the requirement that the parent or guardian has not had access to coverage for six months prior to application. The bill changes the eligibility requirements for SCHIP by removing the requirement that the parent or guardian demonstrate annually that their total net worth does not exceed \$250,000 in total value. The bill changes, from six months to 90 days, the time that a child must be ineligible for SCHIP coverage after notification from the department when his or her parent or guardian with an income of more than 250% of the federal poverty level fails to pay the required co-payment or premium.

HEALTH INSURANCE MANDATE EXEMPTION (Section 376.998)

The bill prohibits any health insurance mandate that is applicable to health benefit plans written by a health carrier from applying to excepted benefit plans. For purposes of the exemption under these provisions, a "health insurance mandate" means a state requirement for a health carrier to offer or provide coverage for:

- (1) A treatment by a particular type of health care provider;
- (2) A certain treatment or service, including procedures, medical equipment, or drugs that are used in connection with a treatment or service; and
- (3) Screening, diagnosis, or treatment of a particular disease or condition.

The bill requires that all excepted benefit plans issued on or after January 1, 2015, to include a disclaimer printed in no less than 12-point font on the front of the policy, certificate, application and enrollment form, and all advertising materials which states:

"NOTICE TO CONSUMER: THIS PLAN IS NOT CONSIDERED "MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE" AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE. THIS PLAN HAS LIMITS AND EXCLUSIONS AND MAY NOT COVER ALL HEALTH BENEFITS OR SERVICES."

If plan identification cards are issued to enrollees of excepted benefit plans, the cards must clearly and conspicuously state on the front of the card: "THIS IS NOT MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE."

These provisions apply to all insurers that provide coverage to residents of this state that is issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2015.

HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE NAVIGATORS (Section 376.2004)

An applicant for a health insurance exchange navigator license must take an examination created and administered by the Director of the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration. The department may contract with an independent testing service to administer the examination. An applicant cannot satisfy the examination requirement by demonstrating achievement of a passing score on any certification examination in lieu of the examination administered by the department. Each applicant for a navigator license must submit two full sets of fingerprints to the State Highway Patrol for the purpose of obtaining a Missouri and federal criminal records check. The bill prohibits the department from issuing a license if the applicant has been convicted of a

felony offense or a misdemeanor offense involving fraud or dishonesty.