SENATE, No. 3756

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 11, 2021

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain providers to restore level of care to pre-COVID-19 levels following end of declared public health emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

AN ACT concerning managed care and health insurance and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. Following the end of the public health emergency declared in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a managed care provider or private health insurance provider shall terminate any policies or practices that were adopted or employed due to COVID-19 and resulted in a reduction in the quality or quantity of health care delivered to patients, including but not limited to, those policies or practices that resulted in a reduction in the number of hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to patients.

b. Following the end of the public health emergency declared in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and in the case of a patient who previously requested a reduction in the number of hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to the patient, at the request of the patient, a managed care provider or private health insurance provider shall reauthorize the number of hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to the patient prior to COVID-19.

2. The Commissioners of Banking and Insurance and Health may adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires certain providers to restore the level of care delivered to patients to pre-COVID-19 levels following the end of the public health emergency declared in response to COVID-19.

The bill provides that following the end of the public health emergency declared in response to COVID-19, a managed care provider or private health insurance provider is to terminate any policies or practices that were adopted or employed due to COVID-19 and resulted in a reduction in the quality or quantity of health care delivered to patients, including but not limited to, those policies or practices that resulted in a reduction in the number of

hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to patients.

Under the bill, following the end of the public health emergency declared in response to COVID-19, and in the case of a patient who previously requested a reduction in the number of hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to the patient, at the request of the patient, a managed care provider or private health insurance provider is to reauthorize the number of hours spent by home health care agency employees, health care services firm employees, or health care facility employees in the delivery health care services to the patient prior to COVID-19.