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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEATH AND SAFETY -- CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE ACT

Introduced By: Senators Walaska, and Lombardo

Date Introduced: January 09, 2014

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 93

4 CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE ACT

5 **23-93-1. Short title.** -- This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Correctional  
6 Healthcare Act."

7 **23-93-2. Legislative intent.** -- It is the intent of the general assembly to:

8 (1) Reduce the state's correctional healthcare costs by requiring hospitals and other  
9 medical service providers to bill Medicaid for eligible inmate inpatient hospital and professional  
10 services;

11 (2) Implement improper payment detection, prevention and recovery solutions to reduce  
12 correctional healthcare costs by introducing prospective solutions to eliminate overpayments and  
13 retrospective solutions to recover those overpayments that have already occurred;

14 (3) Cap all contract and non-contract correctional healthcare reimbursement rates at no  
15 more than one hundred ten percent (110%) of the Medicare reimbursement rate; and

16 (4) Embrace technologies to better manage correctional healthcare expenses.

17 **23-93-3. Definitions.** -- The following definition shall apply throughout this chapter  
18 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

19 (1) "Medicare" means the social insurance program administered by the United States

1 government, established under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act of 1965.

2 **23-93-4. Application.** -- Unless otherwise stated, this chapter shall specifically apply to:

3 (1) State correctional healthcare systems and services provided under the general laws;

4 and

5 (2) State contracted managed correctional healthcare services provided under the general

6 laws.

7 **23-93-5. Cap of payments.** -- The state shall cap all contract and non-contract payments

8 to correctional healthcare providers at no more than one hundred ten percent (110%) of the

9 federal Medicare reimbursement rate.

10 **23-93-6. Electronic format.** -- To the maximum extent practicable, all non-contract

11 correctional healthcare claims shall be submitted to the state in an electronic format.

12 **23-93-7. Billing for eligible services.** -- Hospitals and other medical service providers

13 shall bill Medicaid for all eligible inmate inpatient hospital and professional services.

14 **23-93-8. Technology solutions.** -- The state shall implement state-of-the-art clinical code

15 editing technology solutions to further automate claims resolution and enhance cost containment

16 through improved claim accuracy and appropriate code correction. The technology shall identify

17 and prevent errors or potential overbilling based on widely accepted and referenceable protocols

18 such as those of the American Medical Association and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

19 Services. The edits shall be applied automatically before claims are adjudicated to speed

20 processing and reduce the number of pending or rejected claims and help ensure a smoother,

21 more consistent and more open adjudication process with fewer delays in provider

22 reimbursement.

23 **23-93-9. Predictive modeling technology.** -- The state shall implement state-of-the-art

24 predictive modeling and analytics technologies to provide a more comprehensive and accurate

25 view across all providers, beneficiaries and geographies within correctional healthcare programs

26 in order to:

27 (1) Assure that hospitals and medical service providers bill Medicaid for all eligible

28 inmate inpatient hospital and professional services;

29 (2) Identify and analyze those billing or utilization patterns that represent a high risk of

30 inappropriate, inaccurate or erroneous activity;

31 (3) Undertake and automate such analysis before payment is made to minimize

32 disruptions to the workflow and speed claim resolution;

33 (4) Prioritize such identified transactions for additional review before payment is made

34 based on the likelihood of potentially inappropriate, inaccurate or erroneous activity;

1 (5) Capture outcome information from adjudicated claims to allow for refinement and  
2 enhancement of the predictive analytics technologies based on historical data and algorithms  
3 within the system;

4 (6) Prevent the payment of claims for reimbursement that have been identified as  
5 potentially inappropriate, inaccurate or erroneous until the claims have been automatically  
6 verified as valid; and

7 (7) Audit and recover improper payments made to providers based upon inappropriate,  
8 inaccurate or erroneous billing or payment activity.

9 **23-93-10. Audit and recover services.** -- The state shall implement correctional  
10 healthcare claims audit and recovery services to identify improper payments due to non-  
11 fraudulent issues, audit claims, obtain provider sign-off on the audit results and recover validated  
12 overpayments. Post payment reviews shall ensure that the diagnoses and procedure codes are  
13 accurate and valid based on the supporting physician documentation within the medical records.  
14 Core categories of reviews may include, without limitation: coding compliance diagnosis related  
15 group (DRG) reviews, transfers, readmissions, cost outlier reviews, outpatient seventy-two (72)  
16 hour rule reviews, payment errors, and billing errors and others.

17 **23-93-11. Contractor selection.** -- To implement this chapter, the state shall either sign  
18 an intergovernmental agreement with another state already receiving these services, contract with  
19 the cooperative purchasing network (TCPN) to issue a request for proposals (RFP) to select a  
20 contractor or use the following contractor selection process:

21 (1) Not later than sixty (60) days after the effective date of this chapter the state shall  
22 issue a request for information (RFI) to seek input from potential contractors on capabilities and  
23 cost structures associated with the scope of work of this chapter. The results of the RFI shall be  
24 used by the state to create a formal (RFP) to be issued within ninety (90) days of the closing date  
25 of the RFI.

26 (2) Not later than ninety (90) days after the close of the RFI, the state shall issue a formal  
27 RFP to carry out this chapter during the first year of implementation. To the extent appropriate,  
28 the state may include subsequent implementation years and may issue additional RFPs with  
29 respect to subsequent implementation years.

30 (3) The state shall select contractors to carry out this chapter using competitive  
31 procedures as provided for in the state procurement laws.

32 (4) The state shall enter into a contract under this chapter with an entity only if the entity:

33 (i) Can demonstrate appropriate technical, analytical and clinical knowledge and  
34 experience to carry out the functions required by this chapter; or

1           (ii) Has a contract, or will enter into a contract, with another entity that meets the above  
2 criteria.

3           (5) The state shall only enter into a contract under this chapter with an entity to the extent  
4 the entity complies with conflict of interest standards in the state procurement laws.

5           **23-93-12. Access to data.** -- The state shall provide entities with a contract under this  
6 chapter with appropriate access to claims and other data necessary for the entity to carry out the  
7 functions included in this chapter, including, but not limited to: providing current and historical  
8 correctional healthcare claims and provider database information; and taking necessary regulatory  
9 action to facilitate appropriate public-private data sharing, including across multiple correctional  
10 managed care entities.

11           **23-93-13. Reporting.** -- The following reports shall be completed by the department of  
12 health:

13           (1) Not later than three (3) months after the completion of the first implementation year  
14 under this chapter, the department of health shall submit, on an annual basis, to the house and  
15 senate finance committees, and make available to the public a report that includes the following:

16           (i) A description of the implementation and use of technologies included in this chapter  
17 during the year;

18           (ii) A certification by the department of health that specifies the actual and projected  
19 savings to state correctional healthcare programs as a result of the use of these technologies,  
20 including estimates of the amounts of such savings with respect to both improper payments  
21 recovered and improper payments avoided;

22           (iii) The actual and projected savings in correctional healthcare services as a result of  
23 such use of technologies relative to the return on investment for the use of such technologies and  
24 in comparison to other strategies or technologies used to prevent and detect inappropriate,  
25 inaccurate or erroneous activity;

26           (iv) Any modifications or refinements that should be made to increase the amount of  
27 actual or projected savings or mitigate any adverse impact on correctional healthcare beneficiaries  
28 or providers;

29           (v) An analysis of the extent to which the use of these technologies successfully  
30 prevented and detected inappropriate, inaccurate or erroneous activity in correctional healthcare  
31 programs;

32           (vi) A review of whether the technologies affected access to, or the quality of, items and  
33 services furnished to correctional healthcare beneficiaries; and

34           (vii) A review of what effect, if any, the use of these technologies had on correctional

1 healthcare providers, including assessment of provider education efforts and documentation of  
2 processes for providers to review and correct problems that are identified.

3 **23-93-14. Shared savings.** -- It is the intent of the general assembly that the savings  
4 achieved through this chapter shall more than cover the costs of its implementation. Therefore, to  
5 the extent possible, technology services used in carrying out this chapter shall be secured using a  
6 shared savings model, whereby the state's only direct cost will be a percentage of actual savings  
7 achieved. Further, to apply this model, a percentage of achieved savings may be used to fund  
8 expenditures required by this chapter.

9 **23-93-15. Severability.** -- If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or any part  
10 of this chapter is declared invalid, the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases,  
11 or parts thereof shall be in no manner affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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RELATING TO HEATH AND SAFETY -- CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE ACT

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1           This act would establish procedures that would reduce the state's correctional inmate  
2 healthcare costs.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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