HOUSE BILL No. 2257

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-2

9 AN ACT concerning insurance; relating to inpatient coverage.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section:

- (1) "Health plan" means any insurer or corporation which issues individual and group health insurance policies providing coverage on an expense-incurred basis, individual and group service or indemnity-type contracts issued by a profit or nonprofit corporation and all contracts issued by health maintenance organizations or authorized to transact business in this state:
- (2) "attending physician" means the person licensed to practice medicine and surgery and who is responsible for the care provided to the insured within the inpatient setting;
- (3) "inpatient" means a setting in which services are provided to a person who has been admitted to a hospital or medical care facility;
- (4) "medically necessary" means any goods, service, item or accommodation that a reasonable and prudent attending physician consistent with the standards of good medical practice believes is appropriate for diagnosing or treating a patient's condition, illness or injury.
- (b) Any health plan providing inpatient coverage shall not deny coverage for covered inpatient services to an insured, including, but not limited to, the number of inpatient days covered, where the attending physician finds the provision of such inpatient services medically necessary.
- (c) Any decision to end the inpatient stay and provision of inpatient services shall not be made by the health plan but by the attending physician upon a determination that the performance of services in the inpatient setting is no longer medically necessary.
- (d) Coverage of inpatient services shall be subject to applicable copayments, coinsurance and deductibles.
- (e) The provisions of this section shall not affect a health plan's contractual provisions for inpatient nervous and mental conditions.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.