HOUSE BILL No. 2401

By Committee on Insurance

2-9

9 AN ACT concerning insurance; enacting the Kansas limited health services organization act.

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

Section 1. As used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section: (a) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of insurance of the state of Kansas.

- (b) "Enrollee" means an individual, including dependents, who is entitled to limited health services pursuant to a contract with an entity authorized to provide or arrange for such services under this act.
- (c) "Evidence of coverage" means the certificate, agreement or contract issued pursuant to section 9, and amendments thereto, setting forth the coverage to which an enrollee is entitled.
- (d) "Limited health service" means pharmaceutical services, dental care services, vision care services, mental health services, substance abuse services, podiatric care services and such other services as may be determined by the commissioner to be limited health services. Limited health service shall not include hospital, medical, surgical or emergency services except as these services are provided incident to the limited health services set forth in the preceding sentence.
- (e) "Limited health service organization" means any corporation, partnership or other entity that, in return for a prepayment, undertakes to provide or arrange for the provision of one or more limited health services to enrollees. Limited health service organization does not include:
- (1) Any entity otherwise authorized pursuant to the laws of this state either to provide any limited health service on a prepayment or other basis or to indemnify for any limited health service;
- (2) any entity that meets the requirements of section 7, and amendments thereto; or
- (3) any provider or entity when providing or arranging for the provision of limited health services pursuant to a contract with a limited health service organization or with an entity described in paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection.

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- (f) "Provider" means a physician, dentist, health facility or other person or institution that is licensed or otherwise authorized to deliver or furnish limited health services.
- (g) "Subscriber" means the person whose employment or other status, except for family dependency, is the basis for entitlement to limited health services pursuant to a contract with an entity authorized to provide or arrange for such services under this act.
- Sec. 2. (a) No person, corporation, partnership or other entity may operate a limited health service organization in this state without obtaining and maintaining a certificate of authority from the commissioner pursuant to this act.
- (b) An application for a certificate of authority to operate a limited health service organization shall be filed with the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner. The application shall be verified by an officer or authorized representative of the applicant and shall set forth, or be accompanied by, the following:
- (1) A copy of the applicant's basic organizational document, such as the articles of incorporation, articles of association, partnership agreement, trust agreement or other applicable documents and all amendments to these documents;
- (2) a copy of all bylaws, rules and regulations or similar documents, if any, regulating the conduct of the applicant's internal affairs;
- (3) a list of the names, addresses, official positions and biographical information of the individuals who are responsible for conducting the applicant's affairs, including, but not limited to, all members of the board of directors, board of trustees, executive committee or other governing board or committee, the principal officers, and any person or entity owning or having the right to acquire 10% or more of the voting securities of the applicant, and the partners or members in the case of a partnership or association;
- (4) a statement generally describing the applicant, its facilities, personnel and the limited health services to be offered;
- (5) a copy of the form of any contract made or to be made between the applicant and any providers regarding the provision of limited health services to enrollees;
- (6) a copy of the form of any contract made, or to be made between the applicant and any person listed in subsection (c) of this section;
- (7) a copy of the form of any contract made or to be made between the applicant and any person, corporation, partnership or other entity for the performance on the applicant's behalf of any functions including, but not limited to, marketing, administration, enrollment, investment management and subcontracting for the provision of limited health services to enrollees;

- (8) a copy of the form of any group contract that is to be issued to employers, unions, trustees or other organizations and a copy of any form of evidence of coverage to be issued to subscribers;
- (9) a copy of the applicant's most recent financial statements audited by independent certified public accountants. If the financial affairs of the applicant's parent company are audited by independent certified public accountants but those of the applicant are not, then a copy of the most recent audited financial statement of the applicant's parent company, certified by an independent certified public accountant, attached to which shall be consolidating financial statements of the applicant, shall satisfy this requirement unless the commissioner determines that additional or more recent financial information is required for the proper administration of this act;
- (10) a copy of the applicant's financial plan, including a three-year projection of anticipated operating results, a statement of the sources of working capital and any other sources of funding and provisions for contingencies;
 - (11) a schedule of rates and charges;
 - (12) a description of the proposed method of marketing;
- (13) a statement acknowledging that all lawful process in any legal action or proceeding against the applicant on a cause of action arising in this state is valid if served in accordance with K.S.A. 40-218 and amendments thereto;
- (14) a description of the complaint procedures to be established and maintained as required under this act;
- (15) a description of the quality assessment and utilization review procedures to be utilized by the applicant;
- (16) a description of how the applicant will comply with the solvency provisions of this act;
- (17) the fee for issuance of a certificate of authority, as provided in this act; and
- (18) such other information as the commissioner may reasonably require to make the determinations required by this act.
- (c) The commissioner may promulgate rules and regulations the commissioner deems necessary to the proper administration of this act to require a limited health service organization, subsequent to receiving its certificate of authority to submit the information, modifications or amendments to the items described in subsection (b) to the commissioner prior to the effectuation of the modification or amendment or to require the limited health service organization to indicate the modifications to the commissioner.
- (d) Any modification or amendment for which the approval of the commissioner is required shall be deemed approved unless disapproved

within 30 days, except the commissioner may postpone the action for such further time, not exceeding an additional 30 days, as necessary for proper consideration.

- Sec. 3. (a) Following receipt of an application filed pursuant to this act, the commissioner shall review the application and notify the applicant of any deficiencies. The commissioner shall issue a certificate of authority to an applicant provided that the following conditions are met:
 - (1) The requirements of this act have been fulfilled;
- (2) the individuals responsible for conducting the applicant's affairs are competent, trustworthy and possess good business reputations, and have had appropriate experience, training or education;
- (3) the applicant is financially responsible and may reasonably be expected to meet its obligations to enrollees and to prospective enrollees. In making this determination, the commissioner may consider:
- (A) The financial soundness of the applicant's arrangements for limited health services and the minimum standard rates, deductibles, copayments and other patient charges used in connection therewith;
- (B) the adequacy of applicant's working capital, other sources of funding, and provisions for contingencies;
- (C) any agreement for paying the cost of the limited health services or for alternative coverage in the event of insolvency of the limited health service organization; and
- (D) the manner in which the solvency requirements of this act have been fulfilled;
- (4) the agreements with providers for the provision of limited health services contain the provisions required by this act; and
- (5) any deficiencies identified by the commissioner have been corrected.
- (b) If the certificate of authority is denied, the commissioner shall notify the applicant and shall specify the reasons for denial in the notice. The limited health service organization shall have 15 days from the date of receipt of the notice to request a hearing before the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act
- Sec. 4. Within 60 days after the effective date of this act, every limited health service organization operating in this state without a certificate of authority shall submit an application for a certificate of authority to the commissioner. Each such organization may continue to operate during the pendency of its application. In the event an application is denied under this section, the applicant will then be treated as a limited health service organization whose certificate of authority has been revoked.
- Sec. 5. (a) An entity authorized pursuant to the laws of this state to operate a health maintenance organization, an accident and health insur-

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ance company, a nonprofit health, hospital or medical service corporation or a fraternal benefit society and that is not otherwise authorized pursuant to the laws of this state to offer limited health services on a per capita or fixed prepayment basis may do so by filing for approval with the commissioner the information required by this act.

- (b) If the commissioner disapproves the filing, the procedures set forth in this act shall be followed.
- Sec. 6. (a) (1) Prior to use, a limited health service organization shall 9 file with the commissioner a notice of any change in rates, charges or benefits and of any material modification of any matter or document 10 furnished pursuant to this act, together with supporting documents nec-12 essary to justify the change or modification.
 - (2) If the commissioner does not disapprove such filing within 30 days of its receipt by the commissioner, such filing shall be deemed approved.
 - (b) (1) If a limited health service organization desires to add one or more limited health services, it shall file a notice with the commissioner and, at the same time, shall submit the information required by this act (if different from that filed with the limited health service organization's application), and shall demonstrate compliance with the provider contracts, solvency and fees sections of this act.
 - If the commissioner does not disapprove such filing within 30 days of its receipt by the commissioner, such filing shall be deemed approved.
 - (c) If any such filing is disapproved, the commissioner shall notify the limited health service organization and shall specify the reasons for disapproval. The limited health service organization shall have 15 days from the date of receipt of notice of disapproval to request a hearing before the commissioner in accordance with the Kansas administrative procedure act.
 - Sec. 7. (a) Every subscriber shall be issued a certificate of coverage which shall contain a clear and complete statement of:
 - The limited health services to which each enrollee is entitled;
 - any limitation of the services, kinds of services or benefits to be provided;
 - (3)any exclusions, including any deductible, copayment or other charges:
 - where and in what manner information is available as to where and how services may be obtained; and
 - the method for resolving complaints.
 - Any amendment to the evidence of coverage may be provided to the subscriber in a separate document.
- Sec. 8. The rates and charges shall be reasonable in relation to the 42 services provided. The commissioner may request information from the 43 limited health service organization supporting the appropriateness of the

1 rates and charges.

- Sec. 9. (a) (1) A limited health service organization organized under the laws of this state shall be deemed to be a domestic insurer for purposes of K.S.A. 40-3301 et seq., and amendments thereto, unless specifically exempted in writing by the commissioner from one or more of the provisions of that act.
- (2) A limited health service organization shall be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 40-2401 et seq. and amendments thereto.
- (3) No other provision of the insurance code shall apply to a limited health service organization unless such an organization is specifically mentioned therein.
 - (b) The provision of limited health services by a limited health service organization or other entity pursuant to this act shall not be deemed to be the practice of medicine or other healing arts.
- (c) Solicitation to arrange for or provide limited health services in accordance with this act shall not be construed to violate any provision of law relating to solicitation or advertising by health professionals.
 - Sec. 10. Notwithstanding any other law of this state, a limited health service organization, health maintenance organization, accident and health insurance company, nonprofit health or hospital or medical service corporation or fraternal benefit society may exclude, in any contract or policy issued to a group, any coverage that would duplicate the coverage for limited health services (whether in the form of services, supplies or reimbursement), insofar as the coverage or service is provided in accordance with this act under a contract or policy issued to the same group or to a part of that group by a limited health service organization, a health maintenance organization, an accident and health insurance company, a nonprofit health or hospital or medical service corporation or a fraternal benefit society.
 - Sec. 11. Each limited health service organization shall provide in its certificate of coverage the procedures for resolving enrollee grievances. At a minimum, the certificate of coverage shall include the following provisions:
 - (a) The definition of a grievance;
 - (b) how, where and to whom the enrollee should file such enrollee's grievance; and
 - (c) that upon receiving notification of a grievance related for payment of a bill for services, the limited health service organization shall:
 - (1) Acknowledge receipt of the grievance in writing within 10 working days after receipt of such grievance unless such grievance is resolved within that period of time;
- 42 (2) conduct a complete investigation of the grievance within 20 work-43 ing days after receipt of a grievance, unless the investigation cannot be

completed within this period of time; and

- (3) every limited health service organization shall establish and maintain a complaint system providing reasonable procedures for resolving written complaints initiated by enrollees and providers. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude an enrollee or a provider from filing a complaint with the commissioner or as limiting the commissioner's ability to investigate any such complaint.
- Sec. 12. (a) The commissioner may examine the affairs of any limited health service organization as often as is reasonably necessary to protect the interests of the people of this state, but not less frequently than once every three years.
- (b) Every limited health service organization shall make its relevant books and records available for an examination and in every way cooperate with the commissioner to facilitate an examination.
- 15 (c) The reasonable expenses of an examination under this section 16 shall be charged to the organization being examined and remitted to the 17 commissioner.
 - (d) In lieu of an examination, the commissioner may accept the report of an examination made by the appropriate examining agency or official of another state or agency of the federal government.
 - Sec. 13. With the exception of investments made in accordance with other provisions of this act, the investable funds of a limited health service organization shall be invested only in securities or other instruments permitted by article 2a of chapter 40 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, or such other securities or investments as the commissioner may permit.
 - Sec. 14. No individual may apply, procure, negotiate or place for others any policy or contract of a limited health service organization unless that individual holds a license or is otherwise authorized to sell accident and health insurance policies, health, hospital or medical service contracts, or health maintenance organization contracts.
 - Sec. 15. All contracts with providers or with entities subcontracting for the provision of limited health services to enrollees on a prepayment or other basis shall contain or shall be required to contain the following terms and conditions: (a) In the event the limited health service organization fails to pay for limited health services for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, insolvency or breach of contract, the enrollees shall not be liable to the provider for any sums owed to the provider under the contract.
 - (b) No provider, agent, trustee or assignee thereof may maintain an action at law or attempt to collect from the enrollee any sum owed to the provider by the limited health service organization.
 - (c) These provisions do not prohibit collection of any uncovered

charge consented to by an enrollee or collection of any copayment regardless of the reason giving rise to the termination.

- (d) Termination of the contract shall not release the provider from completing any procedure in progress on any enrollee then receiving treatment for a specific condition for a period not to exceed 30 days, at the same schedule of copayment or other applicable charge in effect upon the effective date of termination of the contract.
- (e) Any amendment to these foregoing provisions of the contract shall be submitted to and be approved by the commissioner prior to such amendment becoming effective.
- Sec. 16. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d), before issuing any certificate of authority, the commissioner shall require that the limited health service organization have an initial net worth of \$1,500,000, of which \$750,000 shall be met by cash or cash equivalents, and shall thereafter maintain such minimum net worth of \$1,500,000.
 - (b) For the purpose of this section:
- (1) "Minimum net worth" means the excess of total assets over total liabilities, excluding liabilities which have been subordinated in a manner acceptable to the commissioner.
- (2) "Net worth" means net equity reduced by the value assigned to intangible assets including, but not limited to, goodwill; going concern value; organizational expense; starting-up costs; long-term prepayments of deferred charges; nonreturnable deposits; and obligations of any officer, director, owner or affiliate, except short-term obligations of an affiliate for goods or services arising in the normal course of business that are payable on the same terms as equivalent transactions with a nonaffiliate and that are not past due.
- (3) "Cash or cash equivalents" means those current assets that can be converted to cash in one year or less.
- (c) Unless otherwise provided below, each limited health service organization shall deposit with the commissioner or with any organization or trustee acceptable to the commissioner through which a custodial or controlled account is utilized, cash, securities or any combination of these or other measures, for the benefit of all of the enrollees of the limited health service organization, that are acceptable in the amount of \$100,000.
- (1) The deposit shall be an admitted asset of the limited health service organization in the determination of tangible net equity.
- (2) All income from deposits shall be an asset of the limited health service organization. A limited health service organization may withdraw a deposit or any part thereof after making a substitute deposit of equal amount and value.
- (3) Any securities shall be approved by the commissioner before be-

ing substituted.

- (4) The deposit shall be used to protect the interests of the limited health service organization's enrollees and to assure continuation of limited health care services to enrollees of a limited health service organization that is in rehabilitation or conservation. If a limited health service organization is placed in receivership or liquidation, the deposit shall be an asset subject to provisions of the liquidation act.
- (5) The commissioner may reduce or eliminate the deposit requirement if the limited health service organization has made an acceptable deposit with the state or jurisdiction of domicile for the protection of all enrollees, wherever located, and delivers to the commissioner a certificate to that effect, duly authenticated by the appropriate state official holding the deposit.
- (d) The commissioner may waive any of the requirements set forth in subsections (a) through (c) whenever satisfied that:
- (1) The organization has sufficient net worth or an adequate history of generating net income to assure its financial viability, or both, for the next year;
- (2) the organization's performance and obligations are guaranteed by an organization with sufficient net worth and an adequate history of generating net income; or
- (3) the assets of the organization or its contracts with insurers, hospital or medical service corporations, governments or other organizations are reasonably sufficient to assure the performance of its obligations.
- (e) The commissioner shall require that each limited health service organization have a plan for handling insolvency which allows for continuation of coverage and benefits for the duration of the contract period.
- (f) The health organization risk-based capital requirements, as stated in K.S.A. 40-2d01, et seq., shall not apply to any limited health service organization contracting for services provided under Title XVIII, XIX or XXI of the social security act or any other public benefits, provided the public benefit contracts represent at least 90% of the premium volume of the limited health service organization.
- Sec. 17. Each limited health service organization shall demonstrate that it has the assets available to meet any projected losses. The assets required under this section may be satisfied by any combination of assets and other arrangements acceptable to the commissioner, including parental guarantees and letters of credit.
- Sec. 18. Each limited health service organization shall maintain in force a fidelity bond in its own name on its officers and employees in an amount not less than \$175,000 or in any other amount prescribed by the commissioner. Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the bond must be issued by an insurance company that is licensed to do business

 in this state or, if the fidelity bond required by this subsection is not available from an insurance company that holds a certificate of authority in this state, a fidelity bond procured by a surplus lines agent resident in this state and licensed in compliance with K.S.A. 40-246b, and amendments thereto, shall satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

- Sec. 19. (a) On or before April 1, each limited health service organization shall file with the commissioner annually, a report verified by at least two principal officers covering the preceding calendar year.
- (b) The report shall be on forms prescribed by the commissioner and shall include:
- (1) A financial statement of the organization, including its balance sheet, income statement and statement of changes in financial position for the preceding year, certified by an independent public accountant or a consolidated audited financial statement of its parent company certified by an independent public accountant, attached to which shall be consolidating financial statements of the limited health service organization;
- (2) the number of subscribers at the beginning of the year, the number of subscribers as of the end of the year and the number of enrollments terminated during the year; and
- (3) such other information relating to the performance of the organization as is necessary to enable the commissioner to carry out the commissioner's duties under this act.
- (c) The commissioner may require more frequent reports containing such information as is necessary to enable the commissioner to carry out the commissioner's duties under this act.
- (d) The commissioner may assess a fine of up to \$100 per day for each day any required report is late, and the commissioner may suspend the organization's certificate of authority pending the proper filing of the required report by the organization.
- Sec. 20. (a) The commissioner may suspend or revoke the certificate of authority issued to a limited health service organization pursuant to this act upon determining that any of the following conditions exist:
- (1) The limited health service organization is operating significantly in contravention of its basic organizational document or in a manner contrary to that described in and reasonably inferred from any other information submitted pursuant to this act, unless amendments to the submissions have been filed with and approved by the commissioner;
- (2) the limited health service organization issues a certificate of coverage or uses any rate or charge that does not comply with the requirements of this act;
 - (3) the limited health service organization is unable to fulfill its obligations to furnish limited health services;
 - (4) the limited health service organization is not financially respon-

sible and may reasonably be expected to be unable to meet its obligations to enrollees or prospective enrollees;

- (5) the tangible net equity of the limited health service organization is less than that required by this act or the limited health service organization has failed to correct any deficiency in its tangible net equity as required by the commissioner;
- (6) the limited health service organization has failed to implement in a reasonable manner the complaint system required by this act;
- (7) the continued operation of the limited health service organization would be hazardous to its enrollees; or
- (8) the limited health service organization has otherwise failed to comply with this act.
- (b) If the commissioner has cause to believe that grounds for the suspension or revocation of a certificate of authority exist, the commissioner shall notify the limited health service organization in writing specifically stating the grounds for suspension or revocation and fixing a time not more than 60 days thereafter for a hearing on the matter in accordance with the procedures of the Kansas administrative procedure act.
- (c) When the certificate of authority of a limited health service organization is revoked, the organization shall proceed, immediately following the effective date of the order of revocation, to wind up its affairs, and shall conduct no further business except as may be essential to the orderly conclusion of the affairs of the organization. Such limited health service organization shall engage in no further advertising or solicitation whatsoever.
- (d) By written order, the commissioner may permit such further operation of the limited health services organization as the commissioner may find to be in the best interest of enrollees, to the end that enrollees will be afforded the greatest practical opportunity to obtain continuing limited health services.
- Sec. 21. In lieu of any penalty specified elsewhere in this act, or when no penalty is specifically provided, whenever a limited health service organization or other person, corporation, partnership or entity subject to this act has been found, pursuant to the procedures of the Kansas administrative procedure act to have violated any provision of this act, the commissioner may:
- (a) Issue and cause to be served upon the organization, person or entity charged with the violation a copy of the findings and an order requiring the organization, person or entity to cease and desist from engaging in the act or practice that constitutes the violation; and
- (b) impose a monetary penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation, but not to exceed an aggregate penalty of \$10,000.
- 43 Sec. 22. (a) Any rehabilitation, conservation or liquidation of a lim-

ited health service organization shall be deemed to be the rehabilitation, conservation or liquidation of an insurance company and shall be conducted under the supervision of the commissioner pursuant to the law governing the rehabilitation liquidation or conservation of insurance companies.

- (b) A limited health service organization shall not be subject to the laws and regulations governing insurance insolvency guaranty funds, nor shall any insurance insolvency guaranty fund provide protection to individuals entitled to receive limited health services from a limited health service organization.
- Sec. 23. Each limited health service organization subject to this act shall pay to the commissioner the following filing fees:
 - (a) For an application for a certificate of authority, \$150;
 - (b) for an amendment to the certificate of authority, \$10; and
 - (c) for each annual report, \$50.
- Sec. 24. (a) Any information pertaining to the diagnosis, treatment or health of any enrollee obtained from the person or from a provider by a limited health service organization and any contract with providers submitted pursuant to the requirements of this act shall be held in confidence and shall not be disclosed to any person except:
- (1) To the extent that it may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act;
- (2) upon the express consent of the enrollee or applicant, provider or limited health service organization, as appropriate;
- (3) pursuant to statute or court order for the production of evidence or the discovery thereof; or
- (4) in the event of claim or litigation wherein the data or information is relevant.
- (b) With respect to any information pertaining to the diagnosis, treatment or health of any enrollee or applicant, a limited health service organization shall be entitled to claim any statutory privileges against disclosure that the provider who furnished the information to the limited health service organization is entitled to claim.
- (c) In addition, any information provided to the commissioner that constitutes a trade secret, as defined in K.S.A. 60-3320 et seq., and amendments thereto, is privileged information, or is part of a department investigation or examination shall be held in confidence.
- (d) The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall expire on July 1, 2010 pursuant to K.S.A. 45-229, and amendments thereto, unless the legislature acts to reenact these provisions. The legislature shall review this section prior to July 1, 2010.
- Sec. 25. Each limited health service organization shall be deemed an insurance company and shall subject to the same taxes and fees imposed

- upon insurance companies and entitled to the same tax deductions, reductions, abatements and credits that insurance companies are entitled
 to receive.
- Sec. 26. If any section, term or provision of this act shall be adjudged invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, the judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other section, term or provision of this act, but the remaining sections, terms and provisions shall be and remain in full force and effect.
- 9 Sec. 27. Pursuant to the rules and regulations filing act, the commissioner may promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.
- Sec. 28. (a) This act may be cited as the Kansas limited health service organization act.
- 14 (b) This act shall be administered by the commissioner.
- 15 Sec. 29. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.