

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 558

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCHROER.

2139S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to health care provider participation in health insurance plans.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 376.1583, to read as follows:

**376.1583. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited as the "Patients First Act".**

**2. The department of commerce and insurance shall implement and enforce the nondiscrimination protections in Section 2706 of the federal Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 300gg, by ensuring that no group health plan or health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage shall discriminate with respect to participation under the plan or coverage against any health care provider who is acting within the scope of that provider's license or certification under state law.**

**3. (1) A health benefit plan, as defined in section 376.1350, shall not discriminate against a health care provider based on the provider's licensure with respect to reimbursement or participation in any plan or insurance program.**

17           (2) All health care providers shall be reimbursed at  
18 the same rate for the same service as long as such service  
19 is within the provider's scope of practice.

20           4. The department of commerce and insurance may  
21 promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the  
22 administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a  
23 rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is  
24 created under the authority delegated in this section shall  
25 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to  
26 all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,  
27 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are  
28 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the  
29 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay  
30 the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are  
31 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of  
32 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after  
33 August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void.

✓