

# SENATE BILL NO. 499

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCHROER.

1582S.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  
2 one new section, to be known as section 376.1583, to read as  
3 follows:

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

3 2. The department of commerce and insurance shall  
4 implement and enforce the nondiscrimination protections in  
5 Section 2706 of the federal Public Health Service Act, 42  
6 U.S.C. Section 300gg-5, by ensuring that no group health  
7 plan or health insurance issuer offering group or individual  
8 health insurance coverage shall discriminate with respect to  
9 participation under the plan or coverage against any health  
10 care provider who is acting within the scope of that  
11 provider's license or certification under state law.

12 3. (1) A health benefit plan, as defined in section  
13 376.1350, shall not discriminate against a health care  
14 provider based on the provider's licensure with respect to  
15 reimbursement or participation in any plan or insurance  
16 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           (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as  
21 preventing a group health plan or a health insurance issuer  
22 from establishing varying reimbursement rates based on  
23 quality or performance measures.

24           4. The department of commerce and insurance may  
25 promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the  
26 administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a  
27 rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is  
28 created under the authority delegated in this section shall  
29 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to  
30 all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,  
31 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are  
32 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the  
33 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay  
34 the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are  
35 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of  
36 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after  
37 August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

✓