

SENATE BILL NO. 79

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GREGORY (21).

0769S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to health care benefits provided by certain organizations.

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 376.1850, to read as follows:

376.1850. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Contract for health care benefits", any contract, certificate, or agreement entered into, offered or issued to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care services;

(2) "Farm bureau", a nonprofit agricultural membership organization first incorporated in this state at least one hundred years ago, or an affiliate designated by the nonprofit agricultural membership organization;

(3) "Health care service", the same meaning as is ascribed to such term in section 376.1350;

(4) "Member of a qualified membership organization", a natural person who pays periodic dues or fees, other than payments for a contract for health care benefits, for membership in a qualified membership organization, and the natural person's spouse or dependent children under the age of twenty-six;

19 (5) "Qualified membership organization", a farm
20 bureau, or an entity with at least one hundred thousand dues
21 paying members, that is governed by a council of its
22 members, that has at least five hundred million dollars in
23 assets, and that exists to serve its members beyond solely
24 offering health coverage.

25 2. Contracts for health care benefits provided by a
26 qualified membership organization to a natural person in
27 accordance with this section shall not be considered
28 insurance under the laws of this state. Contracts for
29 health care benefits provided in accordance with this
30 section shall be offered only to members of a qualified
31 membership organization.

32 3. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
33 contrary, a qualified membership organization providing a
34 contract for health care benefits under this section shall
35 use the services of an entity permitted to provide
36 administration services in accordance with sections 376.1075
37 to 376.1095, and shall agree in the contract with such
38 entity to processes for benefit determinations and claims
39 payment procedures comparable to those required by law for
40 health carriers and health benefit plans, including, but not
41 limited to, those required under sections 376.383, 376.690,
42 and 376.1367.

43 4. The risk under contracts provided in accordance
44 with this section may be reinsured in accordance with
45 section 375.246.

46 5. Contracts for health care benefits under this
47 section shall include the following written disclaimer on
48 the contract and on all related applications and renewal
49 forms:

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"NOTICE

51 This contract is not health insurance and is not
52 subject to laws and regulations relating to
53 insurance. This contract is not covered by the
54 Missouri Insurance Guaranty Association.".

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