

**HOUSE BILL No. 2298**

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-13

1 AN ACT concerning the state healthcare benefits program, relating to  
2 dental service benefits; assignment thereof.

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

5 Section 1. (a) As used in this section:

6 (1) "Health insurer" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 40-4602,  
7 and amendments thereto, and also includes a nonprofit dental service  
8 corporation as such term is used in K.S.A. 40-19a01 et seq., and  
9 amendments thereto.

10 (2) "Insured" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 40-4602, and  
11 amendments thereto, and also includes a subscriber to a subscription  
12 agreement issued by a nonprofit dental service corporation as such term is  
13 used in K.S.A. 40-19a01 et seq., and amendments thereto.

14 (3) "Participating provider" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 40-  
15 4602, and amendments thereto, and also includes any dentist who has  
16 entered into a participation agreement with a nonprofit dental service  
17 corporation.

18 (b) Each state employee healthcare benefits program plan that is  
19 delivered, issued for delivery, amended or renewed on or after July 1,  
20 2019, shall:

21 (1) Allow the insured to contract directly with any dentist to receive  
22 dental care services without penalty;

23 (2) provide information regarding the insured's dental benefit  
24 coverage to any dentist or dental office designated by the insured;

25 (3) provide that the insured of the plan may assign the right to the  
26 payment or reimbursement of the insured's benefits to the dentist who  
27 provides the dental care service;

28 (4) make benefit maximum payment schedules available to insureds;  
29 and

30 (5) accept claims formatted or transmitted in any manner authorized  
31 by law.

32 (c) A benefit amount paid for receiving dental care services shall be  
33 the same whether or not the insured's dentist providing such dental care  
34 services is a participating provider and belongs to the health insurer's  
35 provider network. The payment required by this subsection shall not  
36 adversely affect the insured's deductible or copayment under the state

1 employee healthcare benefits program plan.

2 (d) A health insurer shall not reduce an insured's benefit payment  
3 amount as a result of any other insured's benefit error or transaction by the  
4 administrator or provider of the state employee healthcare benefits  
5 program plan.

6 (e) After receiving an assignment of benefits, direct payment of the  
7 insured's benefit to the assignee shall satisfy the plan administrator's  
8 benefit payment obligation.

9 (f) Any dentist licensed by the Kansas dental board who maintains  
10 professional liability insurance in accordance with K.S.A. 65-1468, and  
11 amendments thereto, shall be eligible for in-network contract status with a  
12 state employee healthcare benefits program plan.

13 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
14 publication in the statute book.