House Research

- Bill Summary :

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Version: As introduced

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Subject: Contracts for optometrist services modified and disclosures required

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Overview

This bill prohibits certain terms from being included in a contract between a vision care plan and an optometrist. It also requires the vision care plan and optometrist to disclose certain information to enrollees.

Section

1 [62Q.741] Optometrist services.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines "materials," "services," and "vision care plan."

Subd. 2. Noncovered vision care services contract prohibitions.

Paragraph (a). Prohibits a contract between a vision care plan and an optometrist from setting payment amounts for services that aren't covered by the vision care plan. Prohibits a contract between a vision care plan and an optometrist from prohibiting the optometrist from discussing treatment options with patients.

Paragraph (b). Prohibits optometrist from charging more for noncovered services than they usually charge.

Paragraph (c). Requires vision care plans to disclose information to enrollees relating to covered and noncovered services, charges by an optometrist, and laboratories and suppliers.

Paragraph (d). Requires optometrists to post and disclose information to patients relating to discounted rates, treatment plans, and anticipated services and costs.

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Section

Paragraph (e). Requires optometrists to notify patients if the optometrist is using an out-of-network supplier or laboratory and if the optometrist has a financial interest or incentive to use the out-of-network supplier or laboratory.