2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 4, 2013

Introduced by Sen. SEWARD -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to coverage requirements of certain health insurance plans

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 3216 of the insurance law, as added by chapter 504 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as follows: (1) On and after January first, nineteen hundred ninety-seven, no insurer shall offer major medical, comprehensive or other comparable individual contracts, other than for purposes of conversion, unless the benefits of such contracts, including deductibles and coinsurance, are identical to the out-of-plan benefits of the contracts described in section four thousand three hundred twenty-two of this chapter. Such contracts must include a prescription drug benefit complying with the requirements of that section. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO A POLICY INTENDED TO QUALIFY FOR USE IN A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT PURSUANT TO SECTION 1201 OF THE FEDERAL MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG, IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003.

- S 2. Subsection (1) of section 4304 of the insurance law, as added by chapter 504 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as follows:
- (1) On and after January first, nineteen hundred ninety-seven, no insurer shall offer major medical, comprehensive or other comparable individual contracts on a direct payment basis, other than for purposes of conversion, unless the benefits of such contracts, including deductibles and coinsurance, are identical to the out-of-plan benefits of the contracts described in section four thousand three hundred twenty-two of this article. Such contracts must include a prescription drug benefit complying with the requirements of such section. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO A POLICY INTENDED TO QUALIFY FOR USE

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

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IN A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT PURSUANT TO SECTION 1201 OF THE FEDERAL MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG, IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003.

S 3. Subsection (a) of section 4322 of the insurance law, as amended by chapter 342 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

(a) On and after January first, nineteen hundred ninety-six, all health maintenance organizations issued a certificate of authority under 5 6 7 article forty-four of the public health law or licensed under this arti-8 cle shall offer to individuals, in addition to the standardized contract 9 required by section four thousand three hundred twenty-one of this arti-10 a standardized individual enrollee direct payment contract on an 11 open enrollment basis as prescribed by section four thousand three hundred seventeen of this article and section four thousand four hundred 12 six of the public health law, and regulations promulgated thereunder, 13 14 with an out-of-plan benefit system, provided, however, that 15 requirements shall not apply to a health maintenance organization exclu-16 sively serving individuals enrolled pursuant to title eleven of article five of the social services law, title eleven-D of article five of the 17 18 social services law, title one-A of article twenty-five of the public health law or title eighteen of the federal Social Security Act, and, 19 20 further provided, that such health maintenance organization shall not 21 discontinue a contract for an individual receiving comprehensive-type 22 coverage in effect prior to January first, two thousand four who is ineligible to purchase policies offered after such date pursuant to this 23 24 section [or section four thousand three hundred twenty-two of this arti-25 cle] due to the provision of 42 U.S.C. 1395ss in effect prior to January first, two thousand four. The out-of-plan benefit system shall either be 26 27 provided by the health maintenance organization pursuant to subdivision of section four thousand four hundred six of the public health law 28 29 or through an accompanying insurance contract providing out-of-plan 30 benefits offered by a company appropriately licensed pursuant to this chapter. On and after January first, nineteen hundred ninety-six, the 31 32 contracts issued pursuant to this section and section four thousand 33 three hundred twenty-one of this article shall be the only contracts offered by health maintenance organizations to individuals; PROVIDED, 34 35 HOWEVER, THIS LIMITATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ONE OR MORE 36 INTENDED TO QUALIFY FOR USE IN A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT PURSUANT TO 37 SECTION 1201 OF THE FEDERAL MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG, IMPROVEMENT, AND 38 MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003. The enrollee contracts issued by a health maintenance organization under this section and section four thousand 39 40 three hundred twenty-one of this article shall also be the only contracts issued by the health maintenance organization for purposes of 41 conversion pursuant to sections four thousand three hundred four and four thousand three hundred five of this article. However, nothing in 42 43 44 this section shall be deemed to require health maintenance organizations 45 to terminate individual direct payment contracts issued prior to January first, nineteen hundred ninety-six or prohibit health maintenance organ-47 izations from terminating individual direct payment contracts issued 48 prior to January first, nineteen hundred ninety-six.

S 4. This act shall take effect January 1, 2014.