

6939

I N   S E N A T E

April 13, 2012

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Introduced by Sen. KRUEGER -- 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 requiring health insurance companies to provide health care proxy forms to the insured and to store completed proxies on behalf of the insured and to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring the department of social services to provide health care proxy forms and instructions to applicants for Medicaid

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

- 1     Section 1. Section 3217-a of the insurance law is amended by adding a  
2     new subsection (f) to read as follows:  
3     (F) EACH INSURER SUBJECT TO THIS ARTICLE SHALL SUPPLY TO EACH INSURED  
4     BIENNIALY, OR UPON REQUEST, TO EACH PROSPECTIVE INSURED PRIOR TO  
5     ENROLLMENT, A WRITTEN HEALTH CARE PROXY FORM AND A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION  
6     OF THE PURPOSE OF THE HEALTH CARE PROXY FORM AND THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH  
7     TO COMPLETE SUCH FORM.  
8     S 2. The insurance law is amended by adding a new section 3240 to read  
9     as follows:  
10    S 3240. HEALTH CARE PROXY. (A) AN INSURER SUBJECT TO THIS ARTICLE  
11    SHALL ACCEPT RECEIPT FROM AN INSURED OF HIS OR HER COMPLETED HEALTH CARE  
12    PROXY AND STORE SUCH COMPLETED PROXY WITH THE INSURED'S PERMANENT  
13    RECORDS. THE INSURED MAY SUBMIT SUCH PROXY TO THE INSURER AT THE TIME OF  
14    REGISTRATION OR ENROLLMENT OF HIS OR HER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OR AT  
15    ANY TIME THE INSURED HOLDS A POLICY WITH THE INSURER. THE INSURED MAY  
16    FILE AN UPDATED COMPLETED PROXY WITH HIS OR HER INSURER AT ANY TIME THE  
17    INSURED HOLDS A POLICY WITH THE INSURER.  
18    (B) AN INSURER SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF AN INSURED'S MOST RECENTLY  
19    EXECUTED HEALTH CARE PROXY STORED WITH THE INSURED'S PERMANENT RECORDS  
20    BY THE INSURER TO ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR INSTITUTION TREATING THE  
21    INSURED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER RECEIVING INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF  
22    THE INSURED'S TREATMENT.  
23    S 3. Subdivision 1-a of section 366-a of the social services law, as  
24    added by chapter 512 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

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

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1 1-a. Every person making application for medical assistance, and every  
2 person on whose behalf an application is made, shall[, if interested,]  
3 be given the New York state department of health model health care proxy  
4 form, A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPOSE OF THE HEALTH CARE PROXY FORM  
5 AND THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH TO COMPLETE SUCH FORM by the person taking  
6 the application, except where doing so would impede the immediate  
7 provision of health care services. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUPPLY TO EACH  
8 PERSON INSURED BIENNIALY, OR UPON REQUEST, A WRITTEN HEALTH CARE PROXY  
9 FORM, A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPOSE OF THE HEALTH CARE PROXY FORM  
10 AND THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH TO COMPLETE SUCH FORM. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
11 ACCEPT RECEIPT FROM THE APPLICANT OF HIS OR HER COMPLETED HEALTH CARE  
12 PROXY AND STORE SUCH COMPLETED PROXY WITH THE APPLICANT'S PERMANENT  
13 RECORDS. THE APPLICANT MAY SUBMIT HIS OR HER COMPLETED PROXY TO THE  
14 DEPARTMENT AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION OR ENROLLMENT FOR BENEFITS PURSU-  
15 ANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE OR AT ANY TIME THE APPLICANT IS  
16 RECEIVING BENEFITS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE. THE DEPART-  
17 MENT SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S MOST RECENTLY EXECUTED  
18 HEALTH CARE PROXY STORED WITH THE APPLICANT'S PERMANENT RECORDS BY THE  
19 DEPARTMENT TO ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR INSTITUTION TREATING THE  
20 APPLICANT WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER RECEIVING INITIAL NOTIFICATION  
21 OF THE APPLICANT'S TREATMENT.

22 S 4. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
23 have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the  
24 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary  
25 for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized  
26 and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.