

STATE OF NEW YORK

4486--B

Cal. No. 1212

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 5, 2021

Introduced by Sens. HARCKHAM, KENNEDY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Health in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the public health law and the social services law, in relation to the functions of the Medicaid inspector general with respect to audit and review of medical assistance program funds and requiring notice of certain investigations

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 30-a of the public health law is amended by adding
2 four new subdivisions 4, 5, 6 and 7 to read as follows:

3 4. "Provider" means any person or entity enrolled as a provider in the
4 medical assistance program.

5 5. "Recipient" means an individual who is enrolled in the medical
6 assistance program, including an individual who was previously a recipi-
7 ent and, in an appropriate case, an individual who is legally responsi-
8 ble for the recipient.

9 6. "Medical assistance" and "Medicaid" means title eleven of article
10 five of the social services law and the program thereunder.

11 7. "Draft audit report", "initial audit report", "proposed notice of
12 agency action" and "final notice of agency action" means those documents
13 prepared and issued by the inspector under this title and corresponding
14 regulations.

15 § 2. Subdivision 20 of section 32 of the public health law, as added
16 by chapter 442 of the laws of 2006, 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 20. to, consistent with [~~provisions of~~] this title and applicable
2 federal and state laws, regulations, policies, guidelines and standards,
3 implement and amend, as needed, rules and regulations relating to the
4 prevention, detection, investigation and referral of fraud and abuse
5 within the medical assistance program and the recovery of improperly
6 expended medical assistance program funds;

7 § 3. The public health law is amended by adding two new sections 37
8 and 38 to read as follows:

9 § 37. Procedures, practices and standards. 1. Subject to federal law
10 or regulation, recovery of an overpayment resulting from the issuance of
11 a final audit report or final notice of agency action by the inspector
12 shall commence not less than sixty days after the issuance of the final
13 audit report or final notice of agency action. The inspector shall not
14 commence any recovery under this subdivision without providing a minimum
15 of ten days advance written notice to the provider.

16 2. Contracts, cost reports, claims, bills or expenditures of medical
17 assistance funds that were the subject matter of a previous audit or
18 review by or on behalf of the inspector, within the last three years,
19 shall not be subject again to review or audit except on the basis of new
20 information, for good cause to believe that the previous review or audit
21 was erroneous, or where the scope of the inspector's review or audit is
22 significantly different from the scope of the previous review or audit.

23 3. In conducting reviews or audits, the inspector shall apply the
24 laws, regulations, policies, guidelines, standards and interpretations
25 of the appropriate agency, including temporary or emergency regulations,
26 policies, guidelines, standards and interpretations, that were in place
27 at the time the subject claim arose or other conduct took place. Disal-
28 lowances may be imposed or other action taken only for non-compliance
29 with those laws, regulations, policies, guidelines or standards. For
30 purposes of this subdivision, any change in those laws, regulations,
31 policies, guidelines, standards or interpretations shall only be applied
32 prospectively and upon reasonable notice.

33 4. (a) The inspector shall make no recovery from a provider, based on
34 an administrative or technical defect in procedure or documentation made
35 without intent to falsify or defraud, in connection with claims for
36 payment for medically necessary care, services and supplies or the cost
37 thereof as specified in subdivision two of section three hundred sixty-
38 five-a of the social services law provided in other respects appropri-
39 ately to a beneficiary of the medical assistance program, except as
40 provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subdivision.

41 (b) Where there is an administrative or technical defect in procedure
42 or documentation without intent to falsify or defraud, the inspector
43 shall afford the provider an opportunity to correct the defect and
44 resubmit the claim within thirty days of notice of the defect.

45 (c) Where a claim relates to a service that was provided more than two
46 years prior to the commencement of the audit, the provider may submit or
47 resubmit the claim or accept the disallowance of the amount of the
48 claim.

49 5. (a) The inspector shall furnish to the provider at an audit exit
50 conference or in any draft audit findings issued or to be issued to the
51 provider, a detailed written explanation of the extrapolation method
52 employed, including the size of the sample, the sampling methodology,
53 the defined universe of claims, the specific claims included in the
54 sample, the results of the sample, the assumptions made about the accu-
55 racy and reliability of the sample and the level of confidence in the
56 sample results, and the steps undertaken and statistics utilized to

1 calculate the alleged overpayment and any applicable offset based on the
2 sample results. This written information shall include a description of
3 the sampling and extrapolation methodology.

4 (b) The sampling and extrapolation methodologies used by the inspector
5 shall be statistically reasonably valid for the intended use and shall
6 be established in regulations of the inspector.

7 § 38. Procedures, practices and standards for recipients. 1. This
8 section applies to any adjustment or recovery of a medical assistance
9 payment from a recipient, and any investigation or other proceeding
10 relating thereto.

11 2. At least five business days prior to commencement of any interview
12 with a recipient as part of an investigation, the inspector or other
13 investigating entity shall provide the recipient with written notice of
14 the investigation. The notice of the investigation shall set forth the
15 basis for the investigation; the potential for referral for criminal
16 investigation; the individual's right to be accompanied by a relative,
17 friend, advocate or attorney during questioning; contact information for
18 local legal services offices; the individual's right to decline to be
19 interviewed or participate in an interview but terminate the questioning
20 at any time without loss of benefits; and the right to a fair hearing in
21 the event that the investigation results in a determination of incorrect
22 payment.

23 3. Following completion of the investigation and at least thirty days
24 prior to commencing a recovery or adjustment action or requesting volun-
25 tary repayment, the inspector or other investigating entity shall
26 provide the recipient with written notice of the determination of incor-
27 rect payment to be recovered or adjusted. The notice of determination
28 shall identify the evidence relied upon, set forth the factual conclu-
29 sions of the investigation, and explain the recipient's right to request
30 a fair hearing in order to contest the outcome of the investigation. The
31 explanation of the right to a fair hearing shall conform to the require-
32 ments of subdivision twelve of section twenty-two of the social services
33 law and regulations thereunder.

34 4. A fair hearing under section twenty-two of the social services law
35 shall be available to any recipient who receives a notice of determi-
36 nation under subdivision three of this section, regardless of whether
37 the recipient is still enrolled in the medical assistance program.

38 § 4. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 3 of section 363-d of the social
39 services law, as amended by section 4 of part V of chapter 57 of the
40 laws of 2019, is amended and a new subdivision 8 is added to read as
41 follows:

42 (c) In the event that the commissioner of health or the Medicaid
43 inspector general finds that the provider does not have a satisfactory
44 program [~~within ninety days after the effective date of the regulations~~
45 ~~issued pursuant to subdivision four of this section~~], the commissioner
46 or Medicaid inspector general shall so notify the provider, including
47 specification of the basis of the finding sufficient to enable the
48 provider to adopt a satisfactory compliance program. The provider shall
49 submit to the commissioner or Medicaid inspector general a proposed
50 satisfactory compliance program within sixty days of the notice and
51 shall adopt the program as expeditiously as possible. If the provider
52 does not propose and adopt a satisfactory program in such time period,
53 the provider may be subject to any sanctions or penalties permitted by
54 federal or state laws and regulations, including revocation of the
55 provider's agreement to participate in the medical assistance program.

1 8. Any regulation, determination or finding of the commissioner or the
2 Medicaid inspector general relating to a compliance program under this
3 section shall be subject to and consistent with subdivision three of
4 this section.

5 § 5. Section 32 of the public health law is amended by adding a new
6 subdivision 6-b to read as follows:

7 6-b. to consult with the commissioner on the preparation of an annual
8 report, to be made and filed by the commissioner on or before the first
9 day of July to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the
10 speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the senate, the minority
11 leader of the assembly, the commissioner, the commissioner of the office
12 of addiction services and supports, and the commissioner of the office
13 of mental health on the impacts that all civil and administrative
14 enforcement actions taken under subdivision six of this section in the
15 previous calendar year will have and have had on the quality and avail-
16 ability of medical care and services, the best interests of both the
17 medical assistance program and its recipients, and fiscal solvency of
18 the providers who were subject to the civil or administrative enforce-
19 ment action;

20 § 6. This act shall take effect immediately.