

## SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

H. 4587 Introduced on January 9, 2024 **Bill Number:** 

Wooten Author:

Subject: **Insurance Claims** 

House Labor, Commerce, and Industry Requestor:

RFA Analyst(s): Vesely

Impact Date: January 29, 2024

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill adds Section 38-59-235, which requires that health and accident insurers provide confirmation of receipt of claims-based information over mail, email, or fax upon the request and based on the preference of the insured or beneficiary. Confirmation of receipt must include the claim number and a unique confirmation number and must be provided within seven days of receipt. Violations of these provisions are considered an improper claim practice, subject to potential penalties.

The Department of Insurance (DOI) supervises and monitors insurance companies in South Carolina and would be responsible for enforcement of these provisions and application of potential penalties. They indicate that this bill has no fiscal impact. Any changes to policy can be handled by existing operations and procedures.

The Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) administers the State Health Plan, the selfinsured health plan available for South Carolina state employees, public education employees, and participating charter and local government employees and retirees. PEBA has indicated that this would not change current operations of the State Health Plan, and therefore, there will be no impact.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## **Introduced on January 9, 2024 State Expenditure**

This bill adds Section 38-59-235, which requires that health and accident insurers provide confirmation of receipt of claims-based information over mail, email, or fax upon the request and based on the preference of the insured or beneficiary. Confirmation of receipt must include the claim number and a unique confirmation number, and must be provided within seven days of receipt. Violations of these provisions are considered an improper claim practice, subject to penalties from DOI.

**Department of Insurance.** DOI has indicated that there is no fiscal impact, as any changes to policy can be handled by existing operations and procedures.

**Public Employee Benefit Authority.** PEBA has indicated that this would not change current operations of the State Health Plan, and therefore, there will be no impact.

**State Revenue** 

N/A

**Local Expenditure** 

N/A

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director