

State Corporation Commission
2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1444

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Ware

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Vision care plans; reimbursement for services.

5. Summary: Vision care plans; reimbursement for services. Prohibits a participating provider agreement between a vision care plan carrier and an optometrist or ophthalmologist from establishing the fee or rate that the optometrist or ophthalmologist is required to accept for the provision of health care materials or services, or from requiring that an optometrist or ophthalmologist accept the reimbursement paid by the vision care plan carrier as payment in full, unless the services or materials are covered services or covered materials under the applicable vision care plan. Reimbursements by a vision care plan carrier are required to be reasonable, and vision care plans shall not require an optometrist or ophthalmologist to use a particular optical laboratory, manufacturer, or third-party supplier as a condition of participation in a vision care plan. Changes to a proposed participating provider agreement shall be submitted in writing to the optometrist or ophthalmologist at least 30 days prior to their effective date. Provisions of this measure that relate to covered materials also apply to licensed opticians practicing in the Commonwealth. The State Corporation Commission does not have jurisdiction to adjudicate individual controversies arising out of this measure. This measure becomes effective on January 1, 2016.

6. Budget amendment necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission

8. Fiscal implications: None on the State Corporation Commission

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Corporation Commission and the Commission's Bureau of Insurance

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: There is a delayed effective date of January 1, 2016.

Date: 02/27/15/V. Tompkins

cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade
Secretary of Health and Human Resources