

SENATE BILL NO. 99—SENATOR O’CONNELL (BY REQUEST)

FEBRUARY 12, 2001

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Makes various changes to provisions relating to prompt payment of claims to providers of health care. (BDR 57-132)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to insurance; revising provisions governing the prompt payment by insurers of approved claims to providers of health care; revising the rate of interest applicable to the late payment of such claims; prohibiting the assessment of fees against providers of health care to be included on a list of providers of health care; establishing an administrative fine against insurers who do not substantially comply with the provisions requiring prompt payment of approved claims to providers of health care; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1     **Section 1.** NRS 683A.0879 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2     683A.0879 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an  
3     administrator shall approve or deny a claim relating to health insurance  
4     coverage within 30 days after the administrator receives the claim. If the  
5     claim is approved, the administrator shall pay the claim within 30 days  
6     after it is approved. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the  
7     administrator shall pay interest on the claim ~~at the rate of interest~~  
8     ~~established pursuant to NRS 99.040 unless a different rate of interest is~~  
9     ~~established pursuant to an express written contract between the~~  
10    ~~administrator and the provider of health care. The interest must be~~  
11    ~~calculated from 30 days~~ *as follows:*  
12    *(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before*  
13    *the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
14    *rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
15    *until the date the claim is paid;*  
16    *(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before*  
17    *the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
18    *rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
19    *until the date the claim is paid; and*



1 *(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day* after the date on  
2 which the claim ~~is~~ was approved , *interest at a rate of 21 percent per*  
3 *annum accrues from the date the payment was due* until the claim is paid.

4 2. If the administrator requires additional information to determine  
5 whether to approve or deny the claim, he shall notify the claimant of his  
6 request for the additional information within 20 days after he receives the  
7 claim. The administrator shall notify the provider of health care of all the  
8 specific reasons for the delay in approving or denying the claim. The  
9 administrator shall approve or deny the claim within 30 days after  
10 receiving the additional information. If the claim is approved, the  
11 administrator shall pay the claim within 30 days after he receives the  
12 additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period,  
13 the administrator shall pay interest on the claim in the manner prescribed in  
14 subsection 1.

15 3. An administrator shall not request a claimant to resubmit  
16 information that the claimant has already provided to the administrator,  
17 unless the administrator provides a legitimate reason for the request and the  
18 purpose of the request is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the  
19 claimant or discourage the filing of claims.

20 4. An administrator shall not pay only part of a claim that has been  
21 approved and is fully payable.

22 5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the  
23 prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.

24 *6. An administrator shall not require a provider of health care to*  
25 *waive the payment of interest provided for in this section for the late*  
26 *payment of an approved claim.*

27 *7. The commissioner may require an administrator to provide*  
28 *evidence which demonstrates that the administrator has substantially*  
29 *complied with the requirements set forth in this section, including,*  
30 *without limitation, payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of*  
31 *approved claims or at least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for*  
32 *approved claims. If the commissioner determines that an administrator is*  
33 *not in substantial compliance with the requirements set forth in this*  
34 *section, the commissioner may impose an administrative fine of not more*  
35 *than \$10,000 on the administrator.*

36 **Sec. 2.** NRS 689A.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:

37 689A.035 An insurer ~~may~~ *shall not* charge a provider of health care  
38 a fee to include the name of the provider on a list of providers of health  
39 care given by the insurer to its insureds. ~~{The amount of the fee must be~~  
40 ~~reasonable and must not exceed an amount that is directly related to the~~  
41 ~~administrative costs of the insurer to include the provider on the list.}~~

42 **Sec. 3.** NRS 689A.410 is hereby amended to read as follows:

43 689A.410 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an insurer  
44 shall approve or deny a claim relating to a policy of health insurance within  
45 30 days after the insurer receives the claim. If the claim is approved, the  
46 insurer shall pay the claim within 30 days after it is approved. If the  
47 approved claim is not paid within that period, the insurer shall pay interest  
48 on the claim ~~at the rate of interest established pursuant to NRS 99.040~~  
49 ~~unless a different rate of interest is established pursuant to an express~~



~~written contract between the insurer and the provider of health care. The interest must be calculated from 30 days~~ as follows:

*(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the date the claim is paid;*

*(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the date the claim is paid; and*

*(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day after the date on which the claim ~~is~~ was approved, interest at a rate of 21 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the claim is paid.*

2. If the insurer requires additional information to determine whether to approve or deny the claim, it shall notify the claimant of its request for the additional information within 20 days after it receives the claim. The insurer shall notify the provider of health care of all the specific reasons for the delay in approving or denying the claim. The insurer shall approve or deny the claim within 30 days after receiving the additional information. If the claim is approved, the insurer shall pay the claim within 30 days after it receives the additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the insurer shall pay interest on the claim in the manner prescribed in subsection 1.

3. An insurer shall not request a claimant to resubmit information that the claimant has already provided to the insurer, unless the insurer provides a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of the request is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or discourage the filing of claims.

4. An insurer shall not pay only part of a claim that has been approved and is fully payable.

5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.

*6. An insurer shall not require a provider of health care to waive the payment of interest provided for in this section for the late payment of an approved claim.*

*7. The commissioner may require an insurer to provide evidence which demonstrates that the insurer has substantially complied with the requirements set forth in this section, including, without limitation, payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of approved claims or at least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for approved claims. If the commissioner determines that an insurer is not in substantial compliance with the requirements set forth in this section, the commissioner may impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 on the insurer.*

**Sec. 4.** NRS 689B.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689B.015 An insurer that issues a policy of group health insurance ~~may~~ **shall not** charge a provider of health care a fee to include the name of the provider on a list of providers of health care given by the insurer to its insureds. ~~The amount of the fee must be reasonable and must not~~



~~exceed an amount that is directly related to the administrative costs of the insurer to include the provider on the list.]~~

**Sec. 5.** NRS 689B.255 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689B.255 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an insurer shall approve or deny a claim relating to a policy of group health insurance or blanket insurance within 30 days after the insurer receives the claim. If the claim is approved, the insurer shall pay the claim within 30 days after it is approved. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the insurer shall pay interest on the claim ~~[at the rate of interest established pursuant to NRS 99.040 unless a different rate of interest is established pursuant to an express written contract between the insurer and the provider of health care. The interest must be calculated from 30 days]~~ as follows:

*(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the date the claim is paid;*

*(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the date the claim is paid; and*

*(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day after the date on which the claim ~~is~~ was approved, interest at a rate of 21 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the claim is paid.*

2. If the insurer requires additional information to determine whether to approve or deny the claim, it shall notify the claimant of its request for the additional information within 20 days after it receives the claim. The insurer shall notify the provider of health care of all the specific reasons for the delay in approving or denying the claim. The insurer shall approve or deny the claim within 30 days after receiving the additional information. If the claim is approved, the insurer shall pay the claim within 30 days after it receives the additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the insurer shall pay interest on the claim in the manner prescribed in subsection 1.

3. An insurer shall not request a claimant to resubmit information that the claimant has already provided to the insurer, unless the insurer provides a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of the request ~~is~~ is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or discourage the filing of claims.

4. An insurer shall not pay only part of a claim that has been approved and is fully payable.

5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.

*6. An insurer shall not require a provider of health care to waive the payment of interest provided for in this section for the late payment of an approved claim.*

*7. The commissioner may require an insurer to provide evidence which demonstrates that the insurer has substantially complied with the requirements set forth in this section, including, without limitation, payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of approved claims or at*



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1 *least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for approved claims. If the*  
2 *commissioner determines that an insurer is not in substantial compliance*  
3 *with the requirements set forth in this section, the commissioner may*  
4 *impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 on the insurer.*

5 **Sec. 6.** NRS 689C.435 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 689C.435 A carrier serving small employers and a carrier that offers a  
7 contract to a voluntary purchasing group ~~may~~ **shall not** charge a provider  
8 of health care a fee to include the name of the provider on a list of  
9 providers of health care given by the carrier to its insureds. ~~{The amount of~~  
10 ~~the fee must be reasonable and must not exceed an amount that is directly~~  
11 ~~related to the administrative costs of the carrier to include the provider on~~  
12 ~~the list.}~~

13 **Sec. 7.** NRS 689C.485 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 689C.485 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a carrier  
15 serving small employers and a carrier that offers a contract to a voluntary  
16 purchasing group shall approve or deny a claim relating to a policy of  
17 health insurance within 30 days after the carrier receives the claim. If the  
18 claim is approved, the carrier shall pay the claim within 30 days after it is  
19 approved. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the carrier  
20 shall pay interest on the claim ~~{at the rate of interest established pursuant to~~  
21 ~~NRS 99.040 unless a different rate of interest is established pursuant to an~~  
22 ~~express written contract between the carrier and the provider of health care.~~  
23 ~~The interest must be calculated from 30 days}~~ **as follows:**

24 *(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before*  
25 *the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
26 *rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
27 *until the date the claim is paid;*

28 *(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before*  
29 *the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
30 *rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
31 *until the date the claim is paid; and*

32 *(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day after the date on*  
33 *which the claim ~~is~~ was approved, interest at a rate of 21 percent per*  
34 *annum accrues from the date the payment was due until the claim is paid.*

35 2. If the carrier requires additional information to determine whether to  
36 approve or deny the claim, it shall notify the claimant of its request for the  
37 additional information within 20 days after it receives the claim. The  
38 carrier shall notify the provider of health care of all the specific reasons for  
39 the delay in approving or denying the claim. The carrier shall approve or  
40 deny the claim within 30 days after receiving the additional information. If  
41 the claim is approved, the carrier shall pay the claim within 30 days after it  
42 receives the additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within  
43 that period, the carrier shall pay interest on the claim in the manner  
44 prescribed in subsection 1.

45 3. A carrier shall not request a claimant to resubmit information that  
46 the claimant has already provided to the carrier, unless the carrier provides  
47 a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of the request is not to  
48 delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or discourage the filing  
49 of claims.



1 4. A carrier shall not pay only part of a claim that has been approved  
2 and is fully payable.

3 5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the  
4 prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.

5 *6. A carrier shall not require a provider of health care to waive the*  
6 *payment of interest provided for in this section for the late payment of an*  
7 *approved claim.*

8 *7. The commissioner may require a carrier to provide evidence*  
9 *which demonstrates that the carrier has substantially complied with the*  
10 *requirements set forth in this section, including, without limitation,*  
11 *payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of approved claims or at*  
12 *least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for approved claims. If the*  
13 *commissioner determines that a carrier is not in substantial compliance*  
14 *with the requirements set forth in this section, the commissioner may*  
15 *impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 on the carrier.*

16 **Sec. 8.** NRS 695A.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 695A.095 A society ~~{may}~~ **shall not** charge a provider of health care a  
18 fee to include the name of the provider on a list of providers of health care  
19 given by the society to its insureds. ~~{The amount of the fee must be~~  
20 ~~reasonable and must not exceed an amount that is directly related to the~~  
21 ~~administrative costs of the society to include the provider on the list.}~~

22 **Sec. 9.** NRS 695B.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 695B.035 A corporation subject to the provisions of this chapter ~~{may}~~  
24 **shall not** charge a provider of health care a fee to include the name of the  
25 provider on a list of providers of health care given by the corporation to its  
26 insureds. ~~{The amount of the fee must be reasonable and must not exceed~~  
27 ~~an amount that is directly related to the administrative costs of the~~  
28 ~~corporation to include the provider on the list.}~~

29 **Sec. 10.** NRS 695B.2505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 695B.2505 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a  
31 corporation subject to the provisions of this chapter shall approve or deny a  
32 claim relating to a contract for dental, hospital or medical services within  
33 30 days after the corporation receives the claim. If the claim is approved,  
34 the corporation shall pay the claim within 30 days after it is approved. If  
35 the approved claim is not paid within that period, the corporation shall pay  
36 interest on the claim ~~{at the rate of interest established pursuant to NRS~~  
37 ~~99.040 unless a different rate of interest is established pursuant to an~~  
38 ~~express written contract between the corporation and the provider of health~~  
39 ~~care. The interest must be calculated from 30 days}~~ **as follows:**

40 *(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before*  
41 *the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
42 *rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
43 *until the date the claim is paid;*

44 *(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before*  
45 *the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
46 *rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
47 *until the date the claim is paid; and*



- 1     (c) *For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day* after the date on  
2 which the claim ~~is~~ *was* approved , *interest at a rate of 21 percent per*  
3 *annum accrues from the date the payment was due* until the claim is paid.
- 4     2. If the corporation requires additional information to determine  
5 whether to approve or deny the claim, it shall notify the claimant of its  
6 request for the additional information within 20 days after it receives the  
7 claim. The corporation shall notify the provider of dental, hospital or  
8 medical services of all the specific reasons for the delay in approving or  
9 denying the claim. The corporation shall approve or deny the claim within  
10 30 days after receiving the additional information. If the claim is approved,  
11 the corporation shall pay the claim within 30 days after it receives the  
12 additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period,  
13 the corporation shall pay interest on the claim in the manner prescribed in  
14 subsection 1.
- 15     3. A corporation shall not request a claimant to resubmit information  
16 that the claimant has already provided to the corporation, unless the  
17 corporation provides a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of  
18 the request is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or  
19 discourage the filing of claims.
- 20     4. A corporation shall not pay only part of a claim that has been  
21 approved and is fully payable.
- 22     5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the  
23 prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.
- 24     6. *A corporation shall not require a provider of health care to waive*  
25 *the payment of interest provided for in this section for the late payment of*  
26 *an approved claim.*
- 27     7. *The commissioner may require a corporation to provide evidence*  
28 *which demonstrates that the corporation has substantially complied with*  
29 *the requirements set forth in this section, including, without limitation,*  
30 *payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of approved claims or at*  
31 *least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for approved claims. If the*  
32 *commissioner determines that a corporation is not in substantial*  
33 *compliance with the requirements set forth in this section, the*  
34 *commissioner may impose an administrative fine of not more than*  
35 *\$10,000 on the corporation.*
- 36     **Sec. 11.** Chapter 695C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a  
37 new section to read as follows:
- 38     1. *A health maintenance organization shall not:*
- 39     (a) *Enter into any contract or agreement, or make any other*  
40 *arrangements, with a provider for the provision of health care; or*
- 41     (b) *Employ a provider pursuant to a contract, an agreement or any*  
42 *other arrangement to provide health care,*  
43 *unless the contract, agreement or other arrangement specifically*  
44 *provides that the health maintenance organization and provider agree to*  
45 *the schedule for the payment of claims set forth in NRS 695C.185.*
- 46     2. *Any contract, agreement or other arrangement between a health*  
47 *maintenance organization and a provider that is entered into or renewed*  
48 *on or after the effective date of this act that does not specifically include*  
49 *a provision concerning the schedule for the payment of claims as*





1 *required by subsection 1 shall be deemed to conform with the*  
2 *requirements of subsection 1 by operation of law.*

3 **Sec. 12.** NRS 695C.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 695C.050 1. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or in  
5 specific provisions of this Title, the provisions of this Title are not  
6 applicable to any health maintenance organization granted a certificate of  
7 authority under this chapter. This provision does not apply to an insurer  
8 licensed and regulated pursuant to this Title except with respect to its  
9 activities as a health maintenance organization authorized and regulated  
10 pursuant to this chapter.

11 2. Solicitation of enrollees by a health maintenance organization  
12 granted a certificate of authority, or its representatives, must not be  
13 construed to violate any provision of law relating to solicitation or  
14 advertising by practitioners of a healing art.

15 3. Any health maintenance organization authorized under this chapter  
16 shall not be deemed to be practicing medicine and is exempt from the  
17 provisions of chapter 630 of NRS.

18 4. The provisions of NRS 695C.110, 695C.170 to *695C.180, inclusive,*  
19 *695C.190 to* 695C.200, inclusive, 695C.250 and 695C.265 do not apply to  
20 a health maintenance organization that provides health care services  
21 through managed care to recipients of Medicaid under the state plan for  
22 Medicaid or insurance pursuant to the children's health insurance program  
23 pursuant to a contract with the division of health care financing and policy  
24 of the department of human resources. This subsection does not exempt a  
25 health maintenance organization from any provision of this chapter for  
26 services provided pursuant to any other contract.

27 5. The provisions of NRS 695C.1694 and 695C.1695 apply to a health  
28 maintenance organization that provides health care services through  
29 managed care to recipients of Medicaid under the state plan for Medicaid.

30 **Sec. 13.** NRS 695C.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 695C.055 1. The provisions of NRS 449.465, 679B.158, subsections  
32 2, 4, 18, 19 and 32 of NRS 680B.010, NRS 680B.025 to 680B.060,  
33 inclusive, ~~and 695G.010 to 695G.260, inclusive,~~ *chapter 695G of NRS*  
34 *and section 16 of this act,* apply to a health maintenance organization.

35 2. For the purposes of subsection 1, unless the context requires that a  
36 provision apply only to insurers, any reference in those sections to  
37 "insurer" must be replaced by "health maintenance organization."

38 **Sec. 14.** NRS 695C.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 695C.125 A health maintenance organization ~~may~~ *shall not* charge a  
40 provider of health care a fee to include the name of the provider on a list of  
41 providers of health care given by the health maintenance organization to its  
42 enrollees. ~~[The amount of the fee must be reasonable and must not exceed~~  
43 ~~an amount that is directly related to the administrative costs of the health~~  
44 ~~maintenance organization to include the provider on the list.]~~

45 **Sec. 15.** NRS 695C.185 is hereby amended to read as follows:

46 695C.185 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a health  
47 maintenance organization shall approve or deny a claim relating to a health  
48 care plan within 30 days after the health maintenance organization receives  
49 the claim. If the claim is approved, the health maintenance organization





1 shall pay the claim within 30 days after it is approved. If the approved  
2 claim is not paid within that period, the health maintenance organization  
3 shall pay interest on the claim ~~at the rate of interest established pursuant to~~  
4 ~~NRS 99.040 unless a different rate of interest is established pursuant to an~~  
5 ~~express written contract between the health maintenance organization and~~  
6 ~~the provider of health care. The interest must be calculated from 30 days~~  
7 ~~as follows:~~

8 *(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before*  
9 *the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
10 *rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
11 *until the date the claim is paid;*

12 *(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before*  
13 *the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
14 *rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
15 *until the date the claim is paid; and*

16 *(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day* after the date on  
17 which the claim ~~is~~ was approved, *interest at a rate of 21 percent accrues*  
18 *from the date the payment was due* until the claim is paid.

19 2. If the health maintenance organization requires additional  
20 information to determine whether to approve or deny the claim, it shall  
21 notify the claimant of its request for the additional information within 20  
22 days after it receives the claim. The health maintenance organization shall  
23 notify the provider of health care services of all the specific reasons for the  
24 delay in approving or denying the claim. The health maintenance  
25 organization shall approve or deny the claim within 30 days after receiving  
26 the additional information. If the claim is approved, the health maintenance  
27 organization shall pay the claim within 30 days after it receives the  
28 additional information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period,  
29 the health maintenance organization shall pay interest on the claim in the  
30 manner prescribed in subsection 1.

31 3. A health maintenance organization shall not request a claimant to  
32 resubmit information that the claimant has already provided to the health  
33 maintenance organization, unless the health maintenance organization  
34 provides a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of the request  
35 is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or discourage  
36 the filing of claims.

37 4. A health maintenance organization shall not pay only part of a claim  
38 that has been approved and is fully payable.

39 5. A court shall award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the  
40 prevailing party in an action brought pursuant to this section.

41 *6. A health maintenance organization shall not require a provider of*  
42 *health care services to waive the payment of interest provided for in this*  
43 *section for the late payment of an approved claim.*

44 *7. The commissioner may require a health maintenance organization*  
45 *to provide evidence which demonstrates that the health maintenance*  
46 *organization has substantially complied with the requirements set forth*  
47 *in this section, including, without limitation, payment within 30 days of*  
48 *at least 95 percent of approved claims or at least 90 percent of the total*  
49 *dollar amount for approved claims. If the commissioner determines that*



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1 *a health maintenance organization is not in substantial compliance with*  
2 *the requirements set forth in this section, the commissioner may impose*  
3 *an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 on the health*  
4 *maintenance organization.*

5 **Sec. 16.** Chapter 695G of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a  
6 new section to read as follows:

7 *A managed care organization that establishes a panel of providers of*  
8 *health care for the purpose of offering health care services pursuant to*  
9 *chapter 689A, 689B, 689C, 695A, 695B or 695C of NRS shall not charge*  
10 *a provider of health care a fee to include the name of the provider on the*  
11 *panel of providers of health care.*

12 **Sec. 17.** NRS 616C.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 616C.065 1. ~~Within 30 days after the insurer has been notified of an~~  
14 ~~industrial accident, every insurer shall:~~

15 ~~—(a) Commence payment of a claim for compensation; or~~

16 ~~—(b) Deny the claim and notify the claimant and administrator that the~~  
17 ~~claim has been denied.] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an~~

18 *insurer subject to the provisions of chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of*  
19 *NRS shall approve or deny a claim for compensation within 30 days after*  
20 *the insurer receives the claim. If the claim is approved, the insurer shall*  
21 *pay the claim within 30 days after it is approved. If the approved claim is*  
22 *not paid within that period, the insurer shall pay interest on the claim as*  
23 *follows:*

24 *(a) For claims that are paid on or after the 31st day and on or before*  
25 *the 60th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
26 *rate of 12 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
27 *until the date the claim is paid;*

28 *(b) For claims that are paid on or after the 61st day and on or before*  
29 *the 90th day after the date on which the claim was approved, interest at a*  
30 *rate of 18 percent per annum accrues from the date the payment was due*  
31 *until the date the claim is paid; and*

32 *(c) For claims that are paid on or after the 91st day after the date on*  
33 *which the claim was approved, interest at a rate of 21 percent per annum*  
34 *accrues from the date the payment was due until the claim is paid.*

35 2. *If the insurer needs additional information to determine whether*  
36 *to approve or deny the claim, he shall notify the claimant and the*  
37 *administrator of his request for the additional information within 20 days*  
38 *after he receives the claim. The insurer shall notify the provider of health*  
39 *care of all the specific reasons for the delay in approving or denying the*  
40 *claim. The insurer shall approve or deny the claim within 30 days after*  
41 *receiving the additional information. If the claim is approved, the insurer*  
42 *shall pay the claim within 30 days after it receives the additional*  
43 *information. If the approved claim is not paid within that period, the*  
44 *insurer shall pay interest on the claim in the manner prescribed in*  
45 *subsection 1.*

46 3. *An insurer shall not request a claimant to resubmit information*  
47 *that the claimant has already provided to the insurer, unless the insurer*  
48 *provides a legitimate reason for the request and the purpose of the*



1 *request is not to delay the payment of the claim, harass the claimant or*  
2 *discourage the filing of claims.*

3 *4. An insurer shall not pay only part of a claim that has been*  
4 *approved and is fully payable.*

5 *5. An insurer shall not require a provider of health care to waive the*  
6 *payment of interest provided for in this section for the late payment of an*  
7 *approved claim.*

8 *6. The commissioner may require an insurer to provide evidence*  
9 *which demonstrates that the insurer has substantially complied with the*  
10 *requirements set forth in this section, including, without limitation,*  
11 *payment within 30 days of at least 95 percent of approved claims or at*  
12 *least 90 percent of the total dollar amount for approved claims. If the*  
13 *commissioner determines that an insurer is not in substantial compliance*  
14 *with the requirements set forth in this section, the commissioner may*  
15 *impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 on the insurer.*

16 *7. Payments made by an insurer pursuant to this section are not an*  
17 *admission of liability for the claim or any portion of the claim.*

18 ~~*12. If an insurer unreasonably delays or refuses to pay the claim within*~~  
19 ~~*30 days after the insurer has been notified of an industrial accident, the*~~  
20 ~~*insurer shall pay upon order of the administrator an additional amount*~~  
21 ~~*equal to three times the amount specified in the order as refused or*~~  
22 ~~*unreasonably delayed. This payment is for the benefit of the claimant and*~~  
23 ~~*must be paid to him with the compensation assessed pursuant to chapters*~~  
24 ~~*616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS.*~~

25 **Sec. 18.** If a different rate of interest has been established pursuant to  
26 an express written contract between an administrator, insurer, carrier,  
27 corporation or health maintenance organization and a provider of health  
28 care, the amendatory provisions of sections 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 15 and 17 of  
29 this act, relating to the amount of interest that accrues if an approved claim  
30 is not timely paid, apply only to contracts between the administrator,  
31 insurer, carrier, corporation or health maintenance organization and the  
32 provider of health care that are entered into or renewed on or after the  
33 effective date of this act.

34 **Sec. 19.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

