

SB167 ENGROSSED



1 3549VE-2
2 By Senators Carnley, Shelnutt, Scofield, Hovey
3 RFD: Banking and Insurance
4 First Read: 04-Apr-23
5
6 2023 Regular Session



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to health insurance; to allow health insurers to communicate with enrollees regarding their health insurance plan or policy by electronic means.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN. Any policy or contract for health care services, including a vision or dental benefit plan issued, delivered, issued for delivery, renewed in this state by a health care insurer, health maintenance organization, accident and sickness insurer, fraternal benefit society, nonprofit hospital service corporation, nonprofit medical service corporation, health care service plan, or any other individual, firm, corporation, joint venture, or other similar business entity that pays for, purchases, or furnishes health care services to patients, insureds, or beneficiaries in this state, including any entity created pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 4 of Title 10, Code of Alabama 1975.

(2) PLAN SPONSOR. Any person who establishes, adopts, or maintains a health benefit plan, including an employer.



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29 (b) A health benefit plan may provide all
30 communications relating to a health benefit plan, including
31 any health insurance identification card, to covered
32 individuals of the health benefit plan by electronic means,
33 provided the plan sponsor has done all of the following:

34 (1) Provided the consent to the mailing of all
35 communications related to the plan by electronic means on
36 behalf of covered individuals enrolled in the plan to the
37 health benefit plan.

38 (2) Confirmed that the enrollee routinely uses
39 electronic communications on a regular basis. This may be
40 confirmed by the employer of an enrollee if the employer is
41 the plan sponsor.

42 (3) Notified the enrollee of the electronic
43 communication option and provided the enrollee with the
44 opportunity to opt out of delivery by electronic
45 communication. This notice may also be provided by the health
46 benefit plan.

47 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first
48 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
49 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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51
52 Senate

53 Read for the first time and referred04-Apr-23
54 to the Senate committee on Banking
55 and Insurance
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57 Read for the second time and placed19-Apr-23
58 on the calendar:
59 0 amendments
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61 Read for the third time and passed25-Apr-23
62 as amended
63 Yeas 32
64 Nays 0
65 Abstains 0
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68 Patrick Harris,
69 Secretary.
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