**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 24‑1‑310 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO IMPLEMENT TECHNOLOGY TO FURTHER AUTOMATE CLAIMS RESOLUTION AND ENHANCE COST CONTAINMENT THROUGH IMPROVED CLAIM ACCURACY AND CODE CORRECTION TO ENSURE THAT MEDICAID IS BILLED FOR ELIGIBLE CORRECTIONAL INPATIENT HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED TO INMATES AT THE DEPARTMENT; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO CONTRACT FOR SERVICES TO PERFORM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT; AND TO PROVIDE THAT SAVINGS GENERATED BY THIS ACT MUST BE USED, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, TO SECURE THE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES USED IN CARRYING OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT.

Whereas, states significantly have reduced correctional health care costs by billing Medicaid for eligible inpatient health care costs; and

Whereas, by enacting this legislation the Department of Corrections shall implement policies and procedures to reduce correctional health care expenditures by ensuring that Medicaid is billed for eligible inpatient hospital and professional health care services rendered to inmates at the Department of Corrections. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 24 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 24‑1‑310. (A) Unless otherwise stated, this section applies to state correctional health care systems and services and state contracted managed correctional health care services.

(B) The Department of Corrections shall implement policies and procedures to ensure that Medicaid is billed for eligible inpatient hospital and professional health care services rendered to inmates at the department. These procedures must include implementation of technology to further automate claims resolution and enhance cost containment through improved claim accuracy and appropriate code correction.

(C) The department shall contract to have services performed to carry out the requirements of this section, and the savings generated by the performance of these services must be used for the operation and administration of this section, including securing the technology services required by this section.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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