

Senate Bill 438

By: Senators Meyer von Bremen of the 12th, Hooks of the 14th and Golden of the 8th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to provide time requirements for
3 the credentialing of hospitals, physicians, and other health care providers by a new
4 third-party administrator of the state employees' health insurance plan; to provide for related
5 matters; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting
6 laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
10 state employees' health insurance plan, is amended by adding a new Code section to the end
11 of such article to read as follows:

12 "45-18-20.

13 At any time in which the board selects and enters into a contract with a new third party to
14 administer health benefits under this article, the new third-party administrator shall be
15 required to complete the credentialing process on any hospital, physician, or other health
16 care provider:

17 (1) Within seven days of entering into a contract with the board to reapprove any
18 hospital, physician, or other health care provider that had been approved and credentialed
19 by the third-party administrator immediately preceding the new third-party administrator;
20 and

21 (2) Within 30 days of entering into a contract with the board to approve any hospital,
22 physician, or other health care provider that is to be newly approved and credentialed by
23 the third-party administrator.

24 The board shall have the authority to grant, in its sole discretion, up to 21 additional days
25 to the third-party administrator with respect to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Code section
26 if the administrator can demonstrate due diligence in its efforts to meet such time

1 requirements. The requirements of this Code section shall be included in the contract
2 entered into between the board and the third-party administrator."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 This Act shall apply to all plan years beginning on and after January 1, 2007.

5 **SECTION 3.**

6 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
7 without such approval.

8 **SECTION 4.**

9 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.