

The House Committee on Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight offers the following substitute to HB 1354:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 insurance generally, so as to require health insurers to implement a standardized
3 credentialing application; to provide for health insurers to approve credentialing applications
4 within a certain time frame; to provide for the Department of Insurance and the Department
5 of Community Health to coordinate with stakeholders to establish a standardized
6 credentialing application; to provide for health insurers to utilize such application; to provide
7 for rules and regulations; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to
8 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance
12 generally, is amended in Article 1, relating to general provisions, by revising Code
13 Section 33-24-37, which is reserved, as follows:

14 "33-24-37.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

16 (1) 'Complete credentialing application' means the submission of a credentialing
17 application and any supporting documents for a healthcare provider to a health insurer.

18 (2) 'Credentialing' means to collect, verify, and assess whether a healthcare provider
19 meets relevant licensing, education, and training requirements.

20 (b) Every health insurer shall approve complete credentialing applications from healthcare
21 providers within 45 days of receipt of any such application if submitted in accordance with
22 the rules and regulations promulgated by the department.

23 (c) The department and the Department of Community Health shall coordinate with
24 stakeholders to establish a standardized credentialing application for use in credentialing
25 healthcare providers, which may be based on acceptance of data from or integration with
26 the credentialing verification system used by the state Medicaid program to verify the
27 qualifications, licenses, education, training, and professional history of healthcare
28 providers.

29 (d) No later than July 1, 2027, every health insurer shall utilize the standardized
30 credentialing application established pursuant to subsection (c) of this Code section.

31 (e) No later than January 1, 2027, the department shall promulgate rules and regulations
32 to implement the provisions of this Code section. Reserved."

33 **SECTION 2.**

34 This Act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

35 **SECTION 3.**

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