

**Act No. 113 (H.812). Health; accountable care organizations; all-payer model; Green Mountain Care Board; Medicaid; Medicare**

**An act relating to implementing an all-payer model and oversight of accountable care organizations**

This act allows the Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB) and Agency of Administration to enter into an agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to waive Medicare provisions only if the agreement meets certain criteria. It specifies elements that the GMCB and Agency of Administration must ensure exist in order to implement an all-payer model, defines an “accountable care organization” (ACO), and directs the GMCB to adopt ACO standards by rule. The act requires all ACOs to obtain and maintain GMCB certification in order to be eligible to receive payments from Medicaid or commercial insurance through a payment reform program or initiative. It specifies criteria that the GMCB must ensure are met in order to certify an ACO and requires the GMCB to establish standards and processes for reviewing, modifying, and approving budgets of ACOs with 10,000 or more attributed lives in Vermont and for ACOs with fewer than 10,000 attributed lives in Vermont. The act provides a role for the Office of the Health Care Advocate in ACO budget review and directs the Departments of Financial Regulation and of Vermont Health Access to ensure that their rules are appropriate to an ACO structure.

The act directs the GMCB to look at ways to reduce administrative burdens on health care providers, to conduct an advisory Medicaid rate case for ACO services, and to consider whether ACOs should have multi-year budgets. It requires the Agency of Human Services to establish a process for integrating Medicaid providers and services into payment and delivery system reform initiatives and directs the Joint Fiscal Office and the Department of Finance and Management to consider the appropriate role, if any, of using multi-year budgets in the Medicaid program. It also requires the Department of Health to establish and post nutrition procurement standards on its website, requires all food and beverage purchased, sold, or served by or on behalf of the State to meet the minimum nutrition procurement standards, and requires food and beverages offered on State property to display nutritional labeling.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 17, 2016