

1 H.680

2 Introduced by Representatives Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Batchelor of  
3 Derby, Branagan of Georgia, Browning of Arlington, LaClair of  
4 Barre Town, and Savage of Swanton

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Health; dental insurance; assignment of payment for benefits

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow a dental  
9 plan subscriber to direct payment for covered dental services to dentists outside  
10 the dental plan's provider network.

11 An act relating to the assignment of payment for dental benefits

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. REDESIGNATION

14 (a) 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 13 (tobacco cessation) is redesignated  
15 as 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 15.

16 (b) 8 V.S.A. § 4100j (coverage for tobacco cessation programs) is  
17 redesignated as 8 V.S.A. § 4100l.

1 Sec. 2. 8 V.S.A. § 4100j is added to chapter 107, subchapter 12 to read:

2 § 4100j. ASSIGNMENT OF PAYMENT FOR BENEFITS

3 (a) As used in this section, “dental plan” means any insurance policy that is  
4 issued by a health care service contractor, health maintenance organization,  
5 health insurer, dental insurer, or any similar entity subject to regulation by the  
6 Department of Financial Regulation, which provides coverage for dental  
7 services as a stand-alone dental plan or in connection with a health insurance  
8 plan as defined in section 4088h of this title.

9 (b) A subscriber of a dental plan may direct the payment for a dental  
10 service covered under the plan to a dentist outside the dental plan’s provider  
11 network who provided the covered dental service to the subscriber. If the  
12 subscriber’s authority to assign payment for a covered dental service to a  
13 dentist outside the dental plan’s provider network is exercised, the dental plan  
14 shall submit payment directly to the dentist providing the covered dental  
15 service.

16 (c) An assignment of payment for a covered dental service pursuant to this  
17 section shall not limit or otherwise affect the payment of benefits or coverage  
18 provided under the dental plan.

19 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.