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H.776

Introduced by Representatives Ode of Burlington, Bock of Chester, Cina of Burlington, Donovan of Burlington, Fields of Bennington, Haas of Rochester, Hooper of Randolph, Keefe of Manchester, Lefebvre of Newark, McFaun of Barre Town, and O’Sullivan of Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; health insurance; physical therapists; reimbursement amounts

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require health insurance plans to reimburse physical therapists the same amounts for their services regardless of the setting in which the services were provided.

An act relating to site-neutral reimbursement for physical therapists

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

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4088k is added to read:

§ 4088k. SITE-NEUTRAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR PHYSICAL

THERAPISTS

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Health insurance plan” means an individual or group health insurance policy, a hospital or medical service corporation or health

1 maintenance organization subscriber contract, or another health benefit plan
2 offered, issued, or renewed for a person in this State by a health insurer. The
3 term does not include benefit plans providing coverage for a specific disease or
4 other limited benefit coverage.

5 (2) “Health insurer” shall have the same meaning as in 18 V.S.A.
6 § 9402.

7 (b) A health insurance plan shall provide the same reimbursement amounts
8 to licensed physical therapists for physical therapy services associated with the
9 same billing codes regardless of the setting in which the physical therapy
10 services were provided.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on October 1, 2018 and shall apply to all health
13 insurance plans issued on and after October 1, 2018 on such date as a health
14 insurer offers, issues, or renews the health insurance plan, but in no event later
15 than October 1, 2019.