

By: Zedler

H.B. No. 1285

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to accreditation requirements for certain workers'
3 compensation insurers and self-insurers.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 1305, Insurance Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 1305.0061 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1305.0061. NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIRED. (a) In
8 this section, "URAC" means the Utilization Review Accreditation
9 Committee of the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission,
10 Inc.

11 (b) An insurance carrier that establishes or contracts with
12 a network certified under this chapter to provide health care
13 services under the Texas Workers' Compensation Act must present
14 evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the carrier is
15 URAC-accredited or accredited by a similar national organization
16 recognized by the commissioner.

17 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 2051, Insurance Code, is
18 amended by adding Section 2051.003 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 2051.003. NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIRED. (a) In
20 this section, "URAC" means the Utilization Review Accreditation
21 Committee of the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission,
22 Inc.

23 (b) An insurance company must present evidence satisfactory
24 to the commissioner that the company is URAC-accredited or

1 accredited by a similar national organization recognized by the
2 commissioner. Failure by an insurance company to comply with the
3 accreditation requirement under this subsection constitutes
4 grounds for cancellation of the insurance company's certificate of
5 authority.

6 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 2054, Insurance Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 2054.0041 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 2054.0041. NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIRED. (a) In
9 this section, "URAC" means the Utilization Review Accreditation
10 Committee of the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission,
11 Inc.

12 (b) The company must present evidence satisfactory to the
13 commissioner that the carrier is URAC-accredited or accredited by a
14 similar national organization recognized by the commissioner.
15 Failure by the company to comply with the accreditation requirement
16 under this subsection constitutes grounds for cancellation of the
17 company's certificate of authority.

18 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 406, Labor Code, is
19 amended by adding Section 406.054 to read as follows:

20 Sec. 406.054. INSURANCE COMPANY ACCREDITATION. An
21 insurance company that issues a workers' compensation insurance
22 policy under this chapter must comply with Section 2051.003,
23 Insurance Code, or Section 2054.0041, Insurance Code, as
24 applicable.

25 SECTION 5. Chapter 406A, Labor Code, is amended by adding
26 Section 406A.009 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 406A.009. NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIRED. (a) In

1 this section, "URAC" means the Utilization Review Accreditation
2 Committee of the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission,
3 Inc.

4 (b) To be eligible for a certificate of approval under this
5 chapter, a group must present evidence satisfactory to the
6 commissioner that the group is URAC-accredited or accredited by a
7 similar national organization recognized by the commissioner.
8 Failure by the group to comply with the accreditation requirement
9 under this subsection constitutes grounds for cancellation of the
10 group's certificate of approval.

11 SECTION 6. This Act applies only to an insurance policy or
12 contract delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after
13 January 1, 2008. A policy or contract delivered, issued for
14 delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2008, is governed by the law
15 as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and
16 that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

17 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.