

premiums for health coverage (except that the amount so withheld may not exceed the maximum amount permitted to be withheld under section 1673(b) of title 15), and to pay such share of premiums to the insurer, except that the Secretary may provide by regulation for appropriate circumstances under which an employer may withhold less than such employee's share of such premiums.

(4) A law that prohibits an insurer from imposing requirements on a State agency, which has been assigned the rights of an individual eligible for medical assistance under this subchapter and covered for health benefits from the insurer, that are different from requirements applicable to an agent or assignee of any other individual so covered.

(5) A law that requires an insurer, in any case in which a child has health coverage through the insurer of a noncustodial parent—

(A) to provide such information to the custodial parent as may be necessary for the child to obtain benefits through such coverage;

(B) to permit the custodial parent (or provider, with the custodial parent's approval) to submit claims for covered services without the approval of the noncustodial parent; and

(C) to make payment on claims submitted in accordance with subparagraph (B) directly to such custodial parent, the provider, or the State agency.

(6) A law that permits the State agency under this subchapter to garnish the wages, salary, or other employment income of, and requires withholding amounts from State tax refunds to, any person who—

(A) is required by court or administrative order to provide coverage of the costs of health services to a child who is eligible for medical assistance under this subchapter,

(B) has received payment from a third party for the costs of such services to such child, but

(C) has not used such payments to reimburse, as appropriate, either the other parent or guardian of such child or the provider of such services,

to the extent necessary to reimburse the State agency for expenditures for such costs under its plan under this subchapter, but any claims for current or past-due child support shall take priority over any such claims for the costs of such services.

(b) "Insurer" defined

For purposes of this section, the term "insurer" includes a group health plan, as defined in section 1167(1) of title 29, a health maintenance organization, and an entity offering a service benefit plan.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1908A, formerly §1908, as added Pub. L. 103-66, title XIII, §13623(b), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 633, renumbered §1908A, Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title VI, §608(y)(1)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-398.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 103-66, title XIII, §13623(c), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 635, provided that:

"(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [enacting this section and amending section 1396a of this title] apply to calendar quarters beginning on or after April 1, 1994, without regard to whether or not final regulations to carry out such amendments have been promulgated by such date.

"(2) In the case of a State plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.] which the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines requires State legislation in order for the plan to meet the additional requirements imposed by the amendments made by this section, the State plan shall not be regarded as failing to comply with the requirements of such title solely on the basis of its failure to meet these additional requirements before the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning after the close of the first regular session of the State legislature that begins after the date of enactment of this Act [Aug. 10, 1993]. For purposes of the preceding sentence, in the case of a State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year of such session shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of the State legislature."

§ 1396h. State false claims act requirements for increased State share of recoveries

(a) In general

Notwithstanding section 1396d(b) of this title, if a State has in effect a law relating to false or fraudulent claims that meets the requirements of subsection (b), the Federal medical assistance percentage with respect to any amounts recovered under a State action brought under such law, shall be decreased by 10 percentage points.

(b) Requirements

For purposes of subsection (a), the requirements of this subsection are that the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Attorney General, determines that the State has in effect a law that meets the following requirements:

(1) The law establishes liability to the State for false or fraudulent claims described in section 3729 of title 31 with respect to any expenditure described in section 1396b(a) of this title.

(2) The law contains provisions that are at least as effective in rewarding and facilitating qui tam actions for false or fraudulent claims as those described in sections 3730 through 3732 of title 31.

(3) The law contains a requirement for filing an action under seal for 60 days with review by the State Attorney General.

(4) The law contains a civil penalty that is not less than the amount of the civil penalty authorized under section 3729 of title 31.

(c) Deemed compliance

A State that, as of January 1, 2007, has a law in effect that meets the requirements of subsection (b) shall be deemed to be in compliance with such requirements for so long as the law continues to meet such requirements.

(d) No preclusion of broader laws

Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a State that has in effect a law that establishes liability to the State for false or fraudulent claims described in section 3729 of title 31, with respect to programs in addition to the State program under this subchapter, or with respect to expenditures in addition to expenditures described in section 1396b(a) of this title, from being considered to be in compliance

with the requirements of subsection (a) so long as the law meets such requirements.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1909, as added Pub. L. 109-171, title VI, §6031(a), Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 72.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1396h, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1909, as added and amended Oct. 30, 1972, Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §§242(c), 278(b)(9), 86 Stat. 1419, 1454; Oct. 25, 1977, Pub. L. 95-142, §4(b), 91 Stat. 1181; Dec. 5, 1980, Pub. L. 96-499, title IX, §917, 94 Stat. 2625; Aug. 18, 1987, Pub. L. 100-93, §4(a)-(c), 101 Stat. 688, 689, related to criminal penalties for acts involving Medicare and State health care programs, prior to being renumbered section 1128B of title XI of act Aug. 14, 1935, by section 4(d) of Pub. L. 100-93 and transferred to section 1320a-7b of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 109-171, title VI, §6031(b), Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 73, as amended by Pub. L. 109-432, div. B, title IV, §405(c)(2)(A)(iii), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3000, provided that: "Except as provided in section 6034(e) [set out as an Effective Date of 2006 Amendment note under section 1396a of this title], the amendments made by this section [enacting this section] take effect on January 1, 2007."

§ 1396i. Certification and approval of rural health clinics and intermediate care facilities for mentally retarded

(a)(1) Whenever the Secretary certifies a facility in a State to be qualified as a rural health clinic under subchapter XVIII, such facility shall be deemed to meet the standards for certification as a rural health clinic for purposes of providing rural health clinic services under this title.

(2) The Secretary shall notify the State agency administering the medical assistance plan of his approval or disapproval of any facility in that State which has applied for certification by him as a qualified rural health clinic.

(b)(1) The Secretary may cancel approval of any intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded at any time if he finds on the basis of a determination made by him as provided in section 1396a(a)(33)(B) of this title that a facility fails to meet the requirements contained in section 1396a(a)(31) of this title or section 1396d(d) of this title, or if he finds grounds for termination of his agreement with the facility pursuant to section 1395cc(b) of this title. In that event the Secretary shall notify the State agency and the intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded that approval of eligibility of the facility to participate in the programs established by this subchapter and subchapter XVIII shall be terminated at a time specified by the Secretary. The approval of eligibility of any such facility to participate in such programs may not be reinstated unless the Secretary finds that the reason for termination has been removed and there is reasonable assurance that it will not recur.

(2) Any intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded which is dissatisfied with a determination by the Secretary that it no longer qualifies as a¹ intermediate care facility for the

mentally retarded for purposes of this subchapter, shall be entitled to a hearing by the Secretary to the same extent as is provided in section 405(b) of this title and to judicial review of the Secretary's final decision after such hearing as is provided in section 405(g) of this title, except that, in so applying such sections and in applying section 405(l) of this title thereto, any reference therein to the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration shall be considered a reference to the Secretary or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively. Any agreement between such facility and the State agency shall remain in effect until the period for filing a request for a hearing has expired or, if a request has been filed, until a decision has been made by the Secretary; except that the agreement shall not be extended if the Secretary makes a written determination, specifying the reasons therefor, that the continuation of provider status constitutes an immediate and serious threat to the health and safety of patients, and the Secretary certifies that the facility has been notified of its deficiencies and has failed to correct them.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1910, as added and amended Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §§249A(a), 278(b)(12), Oct. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 1426, 1454; Pub. L. 95-210, §2(d), Dec. 13, 1977, 91 Stat. 1489; Pub. L. 96-499, title IX, §916(b)(2), Dec. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 2624; Pub. L. 100-203, title IV, §4212(e)(3), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-213; Pub. L. 100-360, title IV, §411(l)(6)(F), July 1, 1988, as added Pub. L. 100-485, title VI, §608(d)(27)(J), Oct. 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 2423; Pub. L. 101-239, title VI, §6901(d)(5), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2301; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §108(d)(4), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1486; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title VI, §608(n)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-397.)

AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-113 struck out "of" after "approval of" in section catchline.

1994—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 103-296 inserted before period at end of first sentence " , except that, in so applying such sections and in applying section 405(l) of this title thereto, any reference therein to the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration shall be considered a reference to the Secretary or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively".

1989—Pub. L. 101-239, §6901(d)(5)(A), substituted "rural health clinics and intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded" for "rural health clinics" in section catchline.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 101-239, §6901(d)(5)(B)-(D), substituted "any intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded" for "any skilled nursing or intermediate care facility", "section 1396a(a)(31) of this title or section 1396d(d) of this title" for "section 1396a(a)(28) of this title or section 1396r of this title or section 1396d(c) of this title", and "the intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded" for "the skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility".

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 101-239, §6901(d)(5)(D), substituted "intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded" for "skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility" in two places.

1988—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 100-360, §411(l)(6)(F), as added by Pub. L. 100-485, §608(d)(27)(J), inserted "or section 1396r of this title" after "1396a(a)(28) of this title".

1987—Pub. L. 100-203 struck out "skilled nursing facilities and" before "of rural" in section catchline, redesignated subsecs. (b) and (c) as (a) and (b), respec-

¹ So in original. Probably should be "an".