

~~(V) THE IMPACT OF ADOPTING A UNIFORM FEE SCHEDULE ON ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES RENDERED BY PRACTITIONERS AND OFFICE FACILITIES;~~

~~(VI) THE IMPACT ON PAYORS OF ADOPTING A UNIFORM FEE SCHEDULE INCLUDING THE IMPACT ON THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;~~

~~(VII) THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF ADJUSTING THE FEE SCHEDULE TO INCLUDE THE REASONABLE COST OF BAD DEBT AND CHARITY CARE RENDERED BY PHYSICIANS AND OFFICE FACILITIES; AND~~

~~(VIII) THE FEASIBILITY OF INCLUDING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FEE SCHEDULE TO RECOGNIZE DIFFERENCES IN EXPERIENCE OR EXPERTISE AMONG PHYSICIANS;~~

~~(D) IN DEVELOPING THE PAYMENT SYSTEM, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSULT WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF PHYSICIANS, HOSPITALS, PAYORS, AND THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION.~~

19-1509.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "C.P.T. CODE" MEANS THE CURRENT PROCEDURAL TERMINOLOGY AS ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

(3) "PAYOR" MEANS A HEALTH INSURER, NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN, OR HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION THAT HOLDS A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 48A OF THE CODE OR THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

(4) "UNBUNDLING" MEANS THE USE OF TWO OR MORE CPT CODES TO DESCRIBE A SURGERY OR SERVICE PROVIDED TO A PATIENT WHEN A SINGLE, MORE COMPREHENSIVE C.P.T. CODE EXISTS THAT ACCURATELY DESCRIBES THE ENTIRE SURGERY OR SERVICE. "UNBUNDLING" INCLUDES THE PRACTICE OF CLAIMING REIMBURSEMENT FOR A MEDICAL VISIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH SURGERY WHEN THE CLAIMED MEDICAL VISIT IS ON THE SAME DATE AS THE SURGERY.

(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1995, THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR ALL HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS IN THE STATE.

(2) THE PAYMENT SYSTEM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE A METHODOLOGY FOR A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER REIMBURSEMENT.

(3) UNDER THE PAYMENT SYSTEM, REIMBURSEMENT FOR EACH HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER SHALL BE DERIVED BY MULTIPLYING THE FOLLOWING NUMERIC FACTORS: