

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
2025-2026 (194th) BILL SUMMARY**

Bill No: H1291

Title: An Act further clarifying the delivery of health care

Sponsor: Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (*Springfield*)

Hearing Date: October 27, 2025

Reporting Deadline: December 3, 2025

Prior History:

2023-24 (H1123): Ordered to a House Study

Similar Matters: None

CURRENT LAW:

Chapter 260 of the Acts of 2020, An Act promoting a resilient health care system that puts patients first

The Act imposes new requirements on providers and health plans regarding telehealth, balance billing, and coverage for COVID-19 related services. The Act uses the terms “provider” and “health care provider,” without specifically defining them.

Chapter 111 Public Health § 228 Allowed amount; advance disclosure of allowed amount or charge for admission, procedure or service; referrals; nonparticipation in plan; penalties (f) [Text of subsection (f) added by 2020, 260, Sec. 25 effective January 1, 2025. See 2020, 260, Sec. 75, as amended by 2022, 22, Sec. 3 and 2022, 107, Sec. 2.] The commissioner shall implement this section and impose penalties for non-compliance consistent with the department's authority to regulate health care providers; provided, however, that the penalty for non-compliance shall not exceed \$2,500 in each instance. A health care provider that violates any provision of this section or the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection shall be liable for penalties as provided in this subsection.

Chapter 22 Acts of 2022, An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2022 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects § 3

Section 75 of chapter 260 of the acts of 2020 is hereby amended by striking out the words “January 1” and inserting in place thereof the following words: - July 31.

Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, An Act relative to extending certain state of emergency accommodations § 2

Section 75 of chapter 260 of the acts of 2020, as amended by section 3 of chapter 22 of the acts of 2022, is hereby further amended by striking out the words “July 31, 2022” and inserting in place thereof the following words: - January 1, 2025.

SUMMARY:

This bill amends the general laws so that any non-compliance penalties that the public health commissioner might impose under *c. 111 Public Health § 228 Allowed amount; advance disclosure of allowed amount or charge for admission, procedure or service; referrals; nonparticipation in plan; penalties (f)* would not apply to dental providers.