

March 30, 1999

**H 714. SUBSTANCE ABUSE/DIRECT PAY. TO PROVIDE FOR DIRECT PAYMENT OF CERTIFIED SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONALS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES AND PLANS.** Amends GS 58-50-30 to add CSAP (certified substance abuse professional, certified by Substance Abuse Professionals' Certification Board under GS Ch. 90, Art. 5C) to list of medical professionals (for example, licensed podiatrists and dentists) against whom insurance policies are forbidden to discriminate with regard to payment of benefits for services rendered within the scope of these professionals' practice; also gives insured or beneficiary the right to choose his or her provider of CSAP services. Amends GS 58-65-1 to add CSAP to list of certified professionals (for example, optometrist and chiropractor) such that if insurance policy covers type of services they provide, insured or beneficiary has right to choose his or her provider and is entitled to reimbursement. Amends GS 135-40.7B(c1) to add CSAPs to list of certified professionals (for example, psychologists and psychiatrists) who may provide care for chemical dependency. Effective Oct. 1, 1999, and applicable to claims for payment or reimbursement for services rendered on or after that date.

**Intro. by Alexander.**

Ref. to Insurance

GS 58

June 2, 1999

**H 714. SUBSTANCE ABUSE/DIRECT PAY.** Intro. 03/30/99. Senate committee substitute makes conforming change to 1st edition by adding provision repealing GS 90-113.47.