

2017 Legislative Session Updates

Vermont Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Board
May 22, 2017

Legislative Updates

Themes for Medicaid from this session:

- **Mental health care and care coordination** – Focus on how to address backlog of patients with psychiatric conditions in emergency rooms
- **Telemedicine** – Expansion of telemedicine as a health care delivery system to patients in non-traditional medical settings (home and community)
- **Transparency for future health care reform** – Publicly available reports of outcomes and progress for Medicaid Next Generation ACO and All Payer Model; Public access to meetings of ACO governing bodies

Legislative Updates, continued

Bill Enacted

- H.507 - An act relating to Next Generation Medicaid ACO pilot project reporting requirements
- Includes S.19 - Out-of-pocket limit for prescription drugs in bronze-level Exchange plans

Bills Passed by House & Senate

S.4 - An act relating to publicly accessible meetings of an accountable care organization's governing body

S.50 - An act relating to insurance coverage for telemedicine services delivered in or outside a health care facility

- S.133 - An act relating to examining mental health care and care coordination
- Appropriation in H.518 for increased funding to DAs/SSAs (\$8,370,000)

Legislative Updates, continued

Bills Passed by House & Senate

H.518 - FY2018 Appropriations Bill

- Appropriation for DA/SSA employee wages; Recommendations from DMH and DAIL on FY2019 budgeting for DAs/SSAs
- Medicaid payment alignment – Support access to primary care; Authorizes DVHA to make adjustments to Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) amount
- Extend emergency rulemaking authority for Health Benefits Eligibility & Enrollment rules (Extend to June 2018)
- Timeline for Drug Utilization & Review Board review of Medicaid's Preferred Drugs List (Extend review of PDL from every 12 to 24 months)
- Continue to delay implementation of MAGI-like methodology for individuals enrolling in VPharm and Healthy Vermonters (Delayed until December 2018)

H.516 - An act relating to miscellaneous tax changes

- HIT fund extension - Sunset on the funding is extended until 7/1/18
- Amendment to current home health agency provider tax base