

New law provides for establishment of an electronic visit verification system for in-home care services funded by the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH).

New law defines "electronic visit verification system" as an automated point of service verification system which electronically verifies that service visits occur and documents the points in time when service provision begins and ends.

New law provides a legislative finding that due to the significant potential of electronic visit verification systems for improving care quality and containing medical assistance program costs, notably through prevention of fraud, abuse, and billing errors, the implementation of such systems in home-based care programs is in the best interest of this state.

New law provides that, to the maximum extent practicable, and subject to certain conditions of new law, DHH shall implement an electronic visit verification system for all in-home care services that it funds through medical assistance programs (e.g. Medicaid). Provides that, contingent upon cost-neutrality or cost savings of implementation, DHH shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to ensure optimal functioning of the electronic visit verification system.

New law authorizes DHH to provide rate enhancements and other financial incentives to providers of long-term care services to facilitate timely and effective implementation of the electronic visit verification system.

New law stipulates that DHH shall implement an electronic visit verification system only if the fiscal impact thereof is reasonably expected to be cost neutral or result in cost savings.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.324)