

SENATE BILL 542

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 56 and Title 71, relative to coverage of certain  
dental services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

No dental service plan licensed pursuant to chapter 30 of this title; prepaid limited health service organization licensed pursuant to chapter 51 of this title; insurance company licensed pursuant to chapter 2 of this title; hospital and medical service corporation licensed pursuant to chapter 29 of this title; or health maintenance organization licensed pursuant to chapter 32 of this title, any of which has entered into a contract with the department of finance and administration or the bureau of TennCare to provide medical services pursuant to the Medical Assistance Act of 1968, compiled in title 71, chapter 5, part 1, shall:

(1) Deny any dentist who is licensed and in good standing with the board of dentistry in this state and has received a postgraduate certificate in pediatric dentistry the right to participate in the provider network established by the dental service plan, prepaid limited health service organization, insurance company, hospital and medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization in accordance with any contractual duty to provide medical services pursuant to the Medical Assistance Act of 1968; or

(2) Restrict the right of any enrollee that is eligible to receive medical services under title 71, chapter 5, to choose any dentist meeting the

qualifications listed in subdivision (1) and this subdivision (2) from whom the enrollee would like to receive the dental services offered under title 71, chapter 5; provided, the dentist has chosen to be a participating provider in the provider network of the dental service plan, prepaid limited health service organization, insurance company, hospital and medical service corporation, or health maintenance organization.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.