

(H.B. 1901)

(No. 64)

(Approved January 4, 2003)

AN ACT

To amend Act No. 72 of September 7, 1993, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration Act”, to add subsection (q) to Section 2 of Article IV, to include as a duty of the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration the responsibility of offering continuing education on the operations of the system, its procedures, those changes that it may undergo, and any other information related to the administration of health services to providers participating in the Health Plan managed by the Administration.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Act No. 72 of September 7, 1993, creates the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration, whose main duty is to manage the Government Health Insurance System, commonly known as the Health Reform.

Several years after the start of said project, the public health system has undergone innumerable situations. Dozens of research studies, by the Legislature, as well as by institutions specialized in health, offer important data on this subject.

In the search of solutions, several specialists in the field of health services management agreed on the need to establish different requirements for the providers of the Reform, to ensure continued quality services and the improvement of the project which, requires concerted efforts for its good management.

To such ends, Act No. 72 of September 7, 1973, as amended, requires specific amendments to require, among other things, continuing education for aspects related to the management and operations of the Reform and in the general field of public health for the providers of said Reform.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- Add subsection (q) to Section 2 of Article IV of Act No. 72 of September 7, 1993, to read as follows:

“(q) To maintain a Continuing Education and Prevention Division for the promotion, development, emphasis, and strengthening of activities and training for the providers participating in the Health Plan to be established and managed by the Administration, according to norms and procedures thereof and the funds assigned to the same for these purposes, including but not limited to:

1) Maintaining said participating providers informed about the operations of the system, its procedures, those changes it may undergo, and any other information related to the management of the health services provided for the beneficiaries of the Administration, according to this Act.

In the exercise of this duty, the Administration may use communication methods or strategies, such as the publishing of an informational bulletin, press releases, or coordinating the educational and prevention seminars for such ends, among others, jointly with the Puerto Rico Surgeons Association and other associations and entities established by law, in representation of the participating providers.”

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect immediately after the first appropriation of the corresponding funds assigned for the purposes established by this Act.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 64 (H.B. 1901) of the 4th Session of the 14th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to amend Act No. 72 of September 7, 1993, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration Act”, to add subsection (q) to Section 2 of Article IV, to include as a duty of the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration the responsibility of offering continuing education on the operations of the system, its procedures, those changes that it may undergo, and any other information related to the administration of health services to providers participating in the Health Plan managed by the Administration,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 3rd of March of 2004.

Elba Rosa Rodríguez-Fuentes
Director