

CHAPTER 195
SB 548-FN - FINAL VERSION

03/05/2026 0837s
23Apr2026... 1484h

2026 SESSION

26-2132
05/06

SENATE BILL

548-FN

AN ACT relative to health carrier provider contract standards.

SPONSORS: Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. McGough, Dist 11; Rep. Miles, Hills. 12; Rep. Burroughs, Carr. 2; Rep. Telerski, Hills. 11; Rep. Nagel, Belk. 6; Rep. Spier, Hills. 6

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the insurance commissioner to hold an informational public hearing when a health carrier ends a provider contract affecting 1,000 or more patients; requires continued access to the provider for a limited period; requires written notice of the contract termination; and authorizes the insurance department to adopt rules regarding notice of termination of provider contracts.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to health carrier provider contract standards.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 195:1 New Section; Managed Care Law; Public Hearing Regarding Termination of Provider Contract;
2 When Required. Amend RSA 420-J by inserting after section 7-e the following new section:

3 420-J:7-f Public Hearing Regarding Termination of Provider Contract; When Authorized.

4 I. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, hold a public hearing within 15
5 business days after receiving notice that a health carrier intends to terminate a contract with a provider
6 when such termination will affect 1,000 or more covered persons. Any hearing held pursuant to this
7 section shall be informational in nature and shall not constitute approval, disapproval, or review of the
8 contract termination. The purpose of the hearing shall be limited to receiving information and testimony
9 regarding the potential effect of the contract termination on access to care in the affected community,
10 including access to quality and affordable physical and mental health care services.

11 II. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the commissioner to require
12 continuation, modification, or renegotiation of a provider contract.

13 III. For purposes of this section, a health carrier's obligation to notify the commissioner of a
14 provider contract termination shall be satisfied in accordance with existing notice requirements under this
15 chapter.

16 195:2 Managed Care Law; Provider Contract Standards. RSA 420-J:8, XI is repealed and reenacted
17 to read as follows:

18 XI.(a) Every contract entered into after July 1, 2003, between a health carrier and any physician
19 or facility shall include a provision ensuring that covered persons have continued access to the provider in
20 the event the contract is terminated for any reason other than unprofessional conduct.

21 (b) Such continued access shall be provided for a period of 60 days from the effective date of
22 contract termination and shall be furnished and reimbursed in accordance with the terms and conditions of
23 the covered person's health benefit plan and the prior contract between the health carrier and the
24 provider.

25 (c) Within 5 business days of the contract termination, the health carrier shall provide written
26 notice to affected covered persons explaining their continued access rights and stating whether the
27 commissioner has elected to hold a public hearing pursuant to RSA 420-J:7-f.

28 (d) The commissioner may adopt rules under RSA 541-A to further specify the content of and
29 process for providing notice to consumers when a contract is terminated.

30 195:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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Approved: June 19, 2026
Effective Date: August 18, 2026

