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BILL



ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 741 (as reported without amendment)  
Sponsor: Senator Rick Jones  
Committee: Health Policy

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Public Health Code to exempt from certificate of need requirements the initiation or expansion of cone-beam dental imaging equipment used by a licensed dentist.

As a rule, a person must obtain a certificate from the Certificate of Need Commission in order to initiate, replace, or expand certain services, known as "covered clinical services", prescribed in the Code. Among other things, "covered clinical service" includes initiation or expansion of fixed and mobile computerized tomography (CT) scanner services. Under the bill, this category of covered clinical services would not include cone-beam dental imaging equipment used by an individual licensed to engage in the practice of dentistry.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

MCL 333.22203

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the State's Medicaid program and State and local governments as employers. The greater availability of cone-beam imaging devices could lead to a greater demand for such services. The costs of these services would be offset to an unknown degree by presumed better outcomes and reduced long-term complications.

It is anticipated that the greater availability of devices producing three dimensional images for complex dental procedures would lead to greater demand for such imaging, which would clearly increase costs. There are indications from dental research literature that the three dimensional images are superior to two dimensional images in treating certain complex conditions, such as cleft palate, unerupted teeth, and various orthodontic surgeries. Higher-quality initial treatment would reduce the necessity for follow-up procedures and thus reduce costs. If cone-beam imaging were to become standard for more routine dental issues, for which there is less diagnostic advantage, then the average long-term cost savings would be lower and the cost increases could exceed long-term savings.

Date Completed: 3-23-16

Fiscal Analyst: Steve Angelotti