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**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

**Date:** October 15, 2024

**Subject:** [Informational Bulletin 24-35](#): Third-Party Liability Act 486 (HB655)

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**Informational Bulletins that summarize policies and/or procedures are intended for quick reference and are accurate on the date they are issued.**

**Third-Party Liability Act 486 (HB655)**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services approved an update to the State Plan Amendment (SPA) to align with the passage of HB655/Act 486 of the 2024 regular legislative session on **July 1, 2024**.

Provisions governing third party liability have been amended in order to:

1. Require that a third party accepts authorization provided by the Louisiana Department of Health that an item or service is covered under the State Plan, as if the authorization were a prior authorization made by the third party for the item or service;
2. Bar a third party from denying a claim based on failure to obtain prior authorization when certain criteria are met;
3. Require that a third party respond to inquiries made by the Department within 60 days of receipt; and
4. Bar a third party from denying a claim submitted by the Department solely on the basis of submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim form, or a failure to present proper documentation at the point-of-sale that is the basis of the claim.

This update can be found in the State Plan Amendment: 1902(a)(25)(I) of the Act:

- (i) In accordance with the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) of 2022, the State ensures that laws are in effect that bar liable third parties from refusing payment for an item or service solely on the basis that such item or service did not receive prior authorization under the third-party payer's rules. These laws also comply with the provisions of section 202 of the CAA 2022.

For more information, contact Kristi Hawkins at [Kristi.Hawkins@la.gov](mailto:Kristi.Hawkins@la.gov).

For full details, please see [Informational Bulletin 24-35](#).

Questions regarding this message should be directed to AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007. The Provider Services Department can be reached daily between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

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