SB 547: Goldcarding Reporting

Suggested Changes to Avoid Duplicative Reporting & Administrative Burden



Background:

- A 2021 Texas law created a mandated process for exempting doctors with a strong track record of approved PAs. This "goldcarding," is built off of private market reforms that aimed to reduce PA requirements for top-performing doctors.
- Health plans have successfully implemented the law and the number of gold cards is increasing.
- The current law requires direct reporting to each individual physician of their specific gold carding exemption status after each six-month evaluation period.
- This is a confusing reporting system for providers who receive multiple notices from various insurers. This is also cumbersome for insurers to provide individual notices to individual providers.

SB 547 Changes to Reporting:

- The bill requires a new duplicative reporting requirement to also report goldcarding status to TDI,
- However, TAHP believes that the concept in the bill could be altered to replace the existing reporting requirements with a new streamlined process.

SB 547 Recommended Changes:

- TAHP is recommending that the new TDI reporting process create a single streamlined place for reporting and for physicians to easily see their gold carding status for all health plans in one location.
- Additionally, our edits to the bill would ensure that a physician that submits a PA request for a procedure where they have a gold card, would immediately be notified that they are exempt.
- These changes would build on the goldcarding program to create an easy to access list of information on goldcards without duplicative individual notices.