## HALFMOON TOWNSHIP CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

## **RESOLUTION 2023-11**

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Quality Health Care Accountability and Protection Act (the "Act"), 40 P.S. 991.2101 *et seq.*) provides for licensed insurers or managed care plans to pay clean claims (i.e., claims for payment of health services which have no defect or impropriety) directly to the submitting health care provider within forty-five (45) days of receiving the claim; and

WHEREAS, under the Act, non-contract and out-of-network health care providers cannot receive direct payment for services from licensed insurers and/or managed care plans because the Act unjustly provides only contracted health care providers may receive direct payments under the Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2216(a) of the Act establishes a statutory scheme whereby emergency health care providers, both contract and non-contract alike, who perform emergency services to enrollees and insured individuals may only seek recompense from the enrollee or insured individual directly; and

WHEREAS, contract and non-contract emergency health care providers are precluded from seeking reimbursement directly from the managed care plan or insurance company; and

WHEREAS, the Act does not expressly permit fire companies that perform emergency medical services to recover their reasonable costs from licensed insurers and/or managed care plans; and

WHEREAS, emergency health care service providers and fire companies are often compelled to hire costly third-party collection agencies in order to obtain reimbursement for services rendered; and

WHEREAS, the insurance company or patient is often unwilling to pay the costs of services to the emergency health care service provider and/or fire company; and

WHEREAS, emergency health care service providers and fire companies' resources are constantly being diminished during each service call, and those resources may not be replaced because of the emergency medical service provider and/or fire companies' inability to be reimbursed by a patients' licensed insurer and/or managed care plan; and

WHEREAS, emergency health care service providers and fire companies, due to declining rates of volunteerism and the ever-growing costs of operation, already face constant pressure to perform budget cuts or reduce the scope of their services; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of the inability to receive reimbursement for services rendered negatively impacts emergency medical services for members of our community who will need it most in their time of need; and

WHEREAS, the ability for emergency medical service providers and fire companies to be reimbursed by an insurance company or managed care plan directly for health care services would better guarantee emergency medical service providers and fire companies will be fully compensated for their services, and thereby assure our communities are safer.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors, of Centre County, Pennsylvania hereby formally and wholeheartedly urges its Pennsylvania State Representatives, Senators, and all other State Legislators to amend the Pennsylvania Quality Health Care Accountability and Protection Act to authorize emergency medical service providers to seek and receive reimbursement for medical services provided to patients directly from the patient's insurance company or managed care plan.

Resolved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2023.

HALFMOON TOWNSHIP CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By:

Amy M. Smith, Secretary

David C. Piper, Chairman