

**House Commerce Committee Amendment**

**Amendment No. 1 to HB1536**

**Rhinehart  
Signature of Sponsor**

<b>FILED</b>
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____
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**AMEND Senate Bill No. 1381\***

**House Bill No. 1536**

by deleting all the language following the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 32, is amended by adding the following new appropriately designated section:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. (a) It is the intent of this section to establish a procedure to verify that the health maintenance organizations and behavioral health organizations participating by contract in the TennCare program are delivering the health benefits required under their TennCare contracts with the state. This procedure shall also assure that each of these entities have adequate provider networks to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of healthcare services to TennCare enrollees.

(b) The commissioner, with the advice and consent of the state comptroller's office, shall contract with an entity independent of the state of Tennessee to conduct annual reviews of organizations contracting with the state in the TennCare program. The contract shall be entered into in accordance with appropriate state procedures. The purpose of this contract shall be to verify, on an annual basis, that each health maintenance organization and behavioral health organization contracting with the state of Tennessee in the TennCare program is delivering health care services in conformity with the state's TennCare contract and applicable statutory authority. This annual review shall include verifying that each of these organizations maintains an adequate network. The standards for network adequacy are defined by the TennCare

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contract and applicable statutes and regulations. Nothing in this subsection precludes the expansion of the state’s current contract with its External Quality Review Organization (“EQRO”) to include having the EQRO conduct this review. The contractor shall submit all findings for each organization in writing to the commissioner, the state comptroller and the director of the TennCare Bureau.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.