



THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802
340-774-0001

September 29, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY

OFFICE OF THE
SENATE PRESIDENT
16 SEP 31 PM 3: 16
SENATOR
NEVILLE A. JAMES

Hon. Neville James
Senate President
31st Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Capitol Building
St. Thomas, V.I. 00802

Re: Government Employees' Renewal of Group Health and Dental Insurance
Coverage with CIGNA

Dear Mr. President:

I have today approved the Third Renewal Agreement for Group Medical Health Insurance and the Agreement for Group Dental Insurance between the Government of the Virgin Islands through the Health Insurance Board of Trustees, received by my office on September 28, 2016 and is now being forwarded to the Thirty-First Legislature to ensure there is no lapse in coverage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Mapp".

Kenneth E. Mapp
Governor

Enclosures

ACT NO. 7896

BILL NO. 31-0466

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2016

An Act ratifying the Third Renewal Agreement for Group Medical Health Insurance and the Agreement for Group Dental Insurance between the Government of the Virgin Islands through the Health Insurance Board of Trustees, the Virgin Islands Port Authority, the University of the Virgin Islands, the Virgin Islands Housing Authority, the East End Medical Center, Nonprofit Organizations, and Frederiksted Health Care, Inc., and CIGNA Health and Life Insurance Company; amending the Virgin Islands Code title 22, chapter 65 relating to Health Insurances Plans, to provide for telemedicine coverage

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 25, subchapter VII, section 633, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands ratifies and approves the Third Renewal Agreement for Group Medical Health Insurance between the Government of the Virgin Islands through the Health Insurance Board of Trustees, the Virgin Islands Port Authority; the University of the Virgin Islands; the St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation; the Virgin Islands Housing Authority; and Non-Profit Organizations, defined as eligible by the Government and Frederiksted Health Care, Inc. and Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company, which is attached to and made part of this Act as Appendix A.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the requirement under 3 V.I.C. § 633 (b) to invite bids for health insurance, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands ratifies and approves the Group Dental Health Insurance Agreement executed by the Governor on September 14, 2016 between the Government of the Virgin Islands through the Health Insurance Board of Trustees, the Virgin Islands Port Authority; the University of the Virgin Islands; the Virgin Islands Housing Authority; the St. Thomas East End Medical Center Corporation; Non-Profit Organizations, defined as eligible by the Government and Frederiksted Health care, Inc. and Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company, which is attached to and made a part of this Act as Appendix B.

SECTION 3. Title 22 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 65 is amended by inserting subchapter IV to read as follows:

“SUBCHAPTER IV Telemedicine Coverage.

§1901. As used in this subchapter the term—

(a) “Telemedicine” means the use of medical information exchanged from one distant site to another via electronic communications to improve, maintain, or assist patients’ health status. Videoconferencing, transmission of still images, and e-health including patient centers are all considered part of telemedicine and telehealth.

(b) “Telemedicine services” means specialist referral services, patient consultations, remote patient monitoring, medical education, and consumer medical and health information, that are performed as part of a telemedicine procedure.

§1902. A health care insurer that offers, issues for delivery, delivers, executes, adjusts, uses, or renews a health care insurance plan shall provide coverage for the costs of telemedicine services and treatment that are medically necessary.”

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on September 22, 2016.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 28th Day of September, A.D., 2016.



Neville A. James
Neville A. James
President

Myron D. Jackson
Myron D. Jackson
Legislative Secretary

Bill No. 31-0466 is hereby approved.



**Witness my hand and the Seal of the
Government of the United States
Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie,
St. Thomas, this 28th day of September A.D.,
2016.**

Kenneth E. Mapp
Kenneth E. Mapp
Governor