

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of Summary of Material Modification and Amendment #6 to Meritain Health Plan.

Author: Sarah Mausolf, Director

Department: Human Resources and Risk Management

Meeting Date: December 5, 2023

Item Description: Request approval of Summary of Material Modification and Amendment #6 to Meritain Health Plan.

Summary Recommendation

Staff recommends approving this plan amendment beginning January 1, 2024.

Effingham County Board of Commissioners (the "Plan Sponsor") is amending the Effingham County Employee Benefit Plan (the "Plan") as follows:

*The **Appointment of Authorized Representative** subsection under **Claims Procedures** is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:*

CLAIM PROCEDURES

Appointment of Authorized Representative

A Covered Person is permitted to appoint an authorized representative to act on his or her behalf with respect to a benefit claim or appeal of a denial. An assignment of benefits by a Covered Person to a provider will not constitute appointment of that provider as an authorized representative. To appoint such a representative, the Covered Person must complete a form which can be obtained from the Plan Administrator or the Third Party Administrator. However, in connection with a claim involving urgent care or services rendered by a Participating Provider, the Plan will permit a health care professional with knowledge of the Covered Person's medical condition to act as the Covered Person's authorized representative without completion of this form. In the event a Covered Person designates an authorized representative, all future communications from the Plan will be with the representative, rather than the Covered Person, unless the Covered Person directs the Plan Administrator, in writing, to the contrary.

Alternatives

1. Recommend approval of Summary of Material Modification and Amendment #6 to Meritain Health Plan.
2. Disapprove and provide staff with guidance on how to proceed.

Other Alternatives: None

Department Review: County Manager and Human Resources.

Funding Source: None

Attachment: Summary of Material Modification and Amendment #6 to the Effingham County Employee Benefit Plan Group No. 17760