

# AS TABLED IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

## A BILL

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#### **BERMUDA HEALTH COUNCIL AMENDMENT ACT 2024**

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004 to provide for the Council, upon the direction of the Minister, to require licensed health service providers, licensed insurers, and approved schemes to provide information necessary to support objective decision making with respect to, among other things, universal health coverage;

Be it enacted by The King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

#### **Citation**

1 This Act, which amends the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004, may be cited as the Bermuda Health Council Amendment Act 2024.

#### **Amends section 5**

2 Section 5 of the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004 is amended—

- (a) by renumbering the provision as subsection (1);
- (b) by inserting the following after subsection (1)—

“(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a) and where directed by the Minister under section 7, the Council shall require licensed health service providers, licensed insurers, and approved schemes to provide returns, statistics or other information necessary to support objective decision making with respect to healthcare service delivery, healthcare utilization, health care costs, the payment of fees for health products and services, and to support implementation of universal health coverage.

(3) Where the Council requires returns, statistics or other information pursuant to subsection (2), it shall require such in a form that anonymizes patient names; and the Council may, if it deems necessary, anonymize other identifying information including the names of licensed health services providers, licensed insurers, and approved schemes.

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(4) Any person who fails to supply the required returns, statistics or other information pursuant to subsection (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20,000 or to imprisonment for twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment.”.

### **Commencement**

3 This Act comes into operation on such day as the Minister appoints by notice published in the Gazette.

## **BERMUDA HEALTH COUNCIL AMENDMENT BILL 2024**

### **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

This Bill seeks to amend the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004 to provide for the Council, upon the direction of the Minister, to require licensed health service providers, licensed insurers, and approved schemes to provide information necessary to support objective decision making with respect to, among other things, universal health coverage.

Clause 1 is self-explanatory.

Clause 2 amends section 5 («Functions of the Council») of the Bermuda Health Council Act 2004 by renumbering the current provision as subsection (1), and inserting subsections (2), (3) and (4). Subsections (2) and (3) provide for the Bermuda Health Council, upon the direction of the Minister, to require licensed health service providers, licensed insurers, and approved schemes to provide, in anonymized form, returns, statistics or other information necessary to support objective decision making with respect to healthcare service delivery, healthcare utilization, health care costs, the payment of fees for health products and services, and to support implementation of universal health coverage. Subsection (4) makes it an offence for a licensed health service provider, licenced insurer, or approved scheme to fail to provide the returns, statistics or other information required by the Council.

Clause 3 provides for the Minister to bring this Act into operation by notice published in the Gazette.