2026 Bill 214

Second Session, 31st Legislature, 5 Charles III

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

# BILL 214

## ALBERTA HEALTH CARE INSURANCE (PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH CARE) AMENDMENT ACT, 2026

MEMBER HOFFMAN

First Reading . . . . . .

Second Reading . . . . . .

Committee of the Whole . . . . . .

Third Reading . . . . . .

Royal Assent . . . . . .

*Bill 214*
*Member Hoffman*

# BILL 214

2026

## ALBERTA HEALTH CARE INSURANCE (PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH CARE) AMENDMENT ACT, 2026

*(Assented to , 2026)*

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

**Amends RSA 2000 cA-20**

**1 The *Alberta Health Care Insurance Act* is amended by this Act.**

**2 The preamble is repealed and the following is substituted:**

WHEREAS access to the health care system must be maintained and protected, including by preventing the creation of financial barriers to accessing the health care system;

WHEREAS reducing access to publicly funded health care creates unequal access based on an individual's financial means;

WHEREAS all Albertans should continue to have access to health services regardless of an individual's income, place of residence or personal circumstances;

WHEREAS protecting universal access to health care strengthens public confidence in Alberta's health care system; and

WHEREAS equitable access to health care promotes better health outcomes and supports the well-being of all Albertans and their families;

## Explanatory Notes

**1** Amends chapter A-20 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000.

**2** Preamble presently reads:

*WHEREAS the Government of Alberta is committed to protecting, promoting and improving the health and well-being of Albertans;*

*WHEREAS the Government of Alberta is committed to improving access to the health care system, without financial barriers; and*

*WHEREAS the Government of Alberta supports individuals having a choice in how they access care;*

**3 Section 1 is amended by repealing clause (o.3) and substituting the following:**

(o.3) "non-Plan services" means services that are not insured health services;

**4 Section 8 is amended as follows:**

**(a) in subsection (2) by striking out** "A physician may elect" **and substituting** "Subject to subsection (2.1), a physician may elect"**;**

**(b) by adding the following after subsection (2):**

**(2.1)** A physician who provides insured health services in a primary care practice belonging to a class prescribed by regulation may not elect to practise as a flexibly participating physician.

**(c) by repealing subsection (5) and substituting the following:**

**(5)** A flexibly participating physician may provide insured health services and non-Plan services, but may not classify, provide or charge for a service described in section 2(2) as a non-Plan service.

**5 Section 8.2(1) is amended by repealing clause (f).**

**6 Section 10 is amended by striking out** "flexibly participating physician,"**.**

**3** Section 1 presently reads in part:

*1 In this Part,*

*(o.3) "non-Plan services" means the services described in section 2(2)(a), (b) and (c) when they are not provided under the Plan as insured health services;*

**4** Section 8 presently reads in part:

*(2) A physician may elect to practise as a flexibly participating physician or non-participating physician.*

*(5) A flexibly participating physician may decide on a case-by-case basis whether to provide a service described in section 2(2)(a), (b) or (c) as a non-Plan service or an insured health service.*

**5** Section 8.2(1)(f) presently reads:

*8.2(1) A flexibly participating physician or non-participating physician must, before providing a non-Plan service to a patient, provide the patient with the following information:*

*(f) that the patient may, if entitled to receive insured health services under this Part, receive the non-Plan service as an insured health service from a participating physician or flexibly participating physician.*

**6** Section 10 presently reads:

*10 If a flexibly participating physician, non-participating physician or non-participating dentist provides the services described in section 2(2)(a), (b) or (c) in Alberta in an emergency to a resident in respect of whom benefits may be paid and the physician, dentist or resident is paid benefits with respect to the provision of those services, the physician or dentist shall not charge or collect from any person an amount in addition to those benefits.*

**7 Section 15 is amended**

**(a) in subsection (1) by striking out** "in respect of whom benefits may be paid"**, and**

**(b) by repealing subsection (2).**

**8 Section 16(1) is amended by adding the following after clause (j):**

(j.1) prescribing a class of primary care practice for the purpose of section 8(2.1);

**9 This Act comes into force on April 1, 2027.**

**7** Section 15 presently reads:

*15(1) Prior to providing non-Plan services in Alberta to a resident in respect of whom benefits may be paid, a flexibly participating physician, non-participating physician or non-participating dentist shall advise the resident of that fact and that the resident is not entitled to be reimbursed from the Plan for the cost of any non-Plan services provided by the physician or dentist.*

*(2) This section does not apply when the insured health services are provided in an emergency.*

**8** Adds prescribing a class of primary care practice.

**9** Coming into force.

# Record of Debate

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