

American Medical News
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**States move to limit
insurance rescissions**

Legislatures are introducing bills restricting insurers' ability to rescind individual health insurance policies.

Legislators in at least four states, including Texas, South Dakota, Maryland and California, are considering passing new laws limiting insurance companies' ability to rescind insurance coverage, a practice that has come under criticism both for harming patients and leaving doctors with unpaid bills or claims from insurers who want their payments back.

California, Connecticut and New Mexico have passed new laws restricting rescissions in the last few years, and media attention to the issue has spurred other states to take up the issue, said Dick Cauchi, health program director for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

"It would not be surprising to see more action on this issue in the coming months and years," he said.

State lawmakers are placing increased limits on rescissions, highlighting the importance of accurate medical underwriting.

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