
DIGEST

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HB No. 771

Abstract: Raises age for mandated health insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders from 17 to 21, eliminates lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000, provides relative to supervision of treatment, and provides for applicability.

Proposed law changes present law relative to mandated health insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders as follows:

- (1) Present law provides that such mandated coverage applies only to individuals less than 17 years of age.

Proposed law raises the age for such mandated coverage so that it applies only to individuals less than 21 years of age.

- (2) Present law imposes an annual maximum benefit of \$36,000 and a lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000.

Proposed law eliminates the lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000.

- (3) Present law defines "treatment of autism spectrum disorders" to include certain care prescribed, provided, or ordered for an individual diagnosed with one of the autism spectrum disorders by a physician or psychologist who shall be licensed in this state and who shall supervise provision of such care.

Proposed law deletes the requirement that such treatment be supervised by a physician or psychologist licensed in this state.

- (4) Present law provides that such mandated coverage shall not apply to any coverage plan issued to an employer with 50 or fewer employees or to individually underwritten, guaranteed renewable health insurance policies.

Proposed law instead provides that such mandated coverage shall not apply to any coverage plan issued to an employer with 10 or fewer employees and deletes the exclusion for individually underwritten, guaranteed renewable health insurance policies.

(Amends R.S. 22:1050(A)(1), (D)(1), and (G)(11)(intro. para.); Repeals R.S. 22:1050(H)(1) and (2))