
DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Foil

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 requires coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders for any health plan issued for delivery, delivered, renewed, or contracted for on or after Jan. 1, 2009.

- (4) Present law provides that such mandated coverage shall not apply to any coverage plan issued to an employer with 50 or fewer employees.

Proposed law deletes this present law exclusion.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law but changes the implementation date to Jan. 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 22:1050(A)(1) and (D)(1); Repeals R.S. 22:1050(H)(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Insurance to the original bill.

1. Provided that any provisions of proposed law that would exceed the essential health benefits provided pursuant to the federal Patient Protection Affordable Care Act shall not be required of a health benefit plan that is offered by a health care insurer in this state.
2. Delayed the implementation date of proposed law from plans delivered, renewed, or issued for delivery on or after Jan. 1, 2013 to those plans delivered, renewed, or issued for delivery on or after Jan. 1, 2014.
3. Restored the definition of "treatment of autism spectrum disorders" used in present law which requires that such treatment be supervised by a physician or psychologist licensed in this state.
4. Restored exclusion of present law that such mandated coverage does not apply to individually underwritten guaranteed renewable health insurance policies.