



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 127

January Session, 2001

House Bill No. 6883

House of Representatives, April 3, 2001

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through REP. JARJURA of the 74th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE REMOVAL OF PORT-WINE STAINS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) Each individual health insurance policy providing
2 coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12)
3 of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery,
4 renewed, amended or continued in this state on or after October 1,
5 2001, shall provide coverage for the treatment and removal of port-
6 wine stains including, but not limited to, port-wine stains caused by
7 Sturge-Weber Syndrome.

8 Sec. 2. (NEW) Each group health insurance policy providing
9 coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12)
10 of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery,
11 renewed, amended or continued in this state on or after October 1,
12 2001, shall provide coverage for the treatment and removal of port-
13 wine stains including, but not limited to, port-wine stains caused by

14 Sturge-Weber Syndrome.

INS *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Future Costs

Affected Agencies: Department of Insurance, Office of the State Comptroller

Municipal Impact: Potential Cost

Explanation

State Impact:

The bill requires each individual and group health insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in the state on or after October 1, 2001 to provide coverage for the treatment and removal of port - wine stains including, but not limited to, port - wine stains caused by Sturge - Weber Syndrome.

The coverage mandated by the bill is not provided under the current state employee plans. The Office of the State Comptroller has estimated a future cost of approximately \$4.3 million annually to provide this coverage under the state employee plans. The cost would be incurred in FY 04 when the state is expected to enter into new health insurance contracts

Municipal Impact:

To the extent that treatment and removal of port - wine stains are

not covered by a municipality's health insurance policy, there may be increased municipal costs to provide it. The bill's impact on municipal health insurance costs will vary by municipality depending on the current coverage and cannot be determined at this time.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6883

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE REMOVAL OF PORT-WINE STAINS.**SUMMARY:**

Beginning October 1, 2001, this bill requires individual and group health insurance policies to cover the treatment and removal of port-wine stains, including those caused by Sturge-Weber Syndrome. The requirement applies to hospital and medical coverage offered by HMOs and policies that pay for (1) basic hospital expenses, (2) basic medical-surgical expenses, (3) major medical expenses, and (4) hospital or medical services. The plan or policy must be delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in the state beginning October 1, 2001.

Port-wine stains are congenital vascular malformations of capillary-sized blood vessels. Sturge-Weber Syndrome may consist of two or more of the following features: (1) port-wine stain near the eye region of the face, (2) glaucoma, (3) seizures, and (4) brain calcification.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 12 Nay 6