



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 280

LCO No. 1468

01468 _____ INS

Referred to Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Introduced by:
(INS)

AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BONE MARROW TESTING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2009*) (a) Subject to the
2 provisions of subsection (b) of this section, each individual health
3 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
4 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
5 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed or
6 continued in this state on or after January 1, 2009, shall provide
7 coverage for expenses arising from human leukocyte antigen testing,
8 also referred to as histocompatibility locus antigen testing, for A, B and
9 DR antigens for utilization in bone marrow transplantation.

10 (b) Such policy may:

11 (1) Require that such testing be performed in a facility (A)
12 accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks, or its
13 successor, or the College of American Pathologists, or its successor, or
14 any other national accrediting body with requirements that are
15 substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those of the College

16 of American Pathologists, and (B) certified under the Clinical
17 Laboratory Improvement Act of 1967, 42 USC Section 263a, as
18 amended from time to time;

19 (2) Limit coverage to individuals who, at the time of such testing,
20 complete and sign an informed consent form that also authorizes the
21 results of the test to be used for participation in the National Marrow
22 Donor Program; and

23 (3) Limit such coverage to a lifetime maximum benefit of one
24 testing.

25 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2009*) (a) Subject to the provisions
26 of subsection (b) of this section, each group health insurance policy
27 providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4),
28 (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered, issued
29 for delivery, amended, renewed or continued in this state on or after
30 January 1, 2009, shall provide coverage for expenses arising from
31 human leukocyte antigen testing, also referred to as histocompatibility
32 locus antigen testing, for A, B and DR antigens for utilization in bone
33 marrow transplantation.

34 (b) Such policy may:

35 (1) Require that such testing be performed in a facility (A)
36 accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks, or its
37 successor, or the College of American Pathologists, or its successor, or
38 any other national accrediting body with requirements that are
39 substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those of the College
40 of American Pathologists, and (B) certified under the Clinical
41 Laboratory Improvement Act of 1967, 42 USC Section 263a, as
42 amended from time to time;

43 (2) Limit coverage to individuals who, at the time of such testing,
44 complete and sign an informed consent form that also authorizes the
45 results of the test to be used for participation in the National Marrow

46 Donor Program; and

47 (3) Limit such coverage to a lifetime maximum benefit of one
48 testing.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2009</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To assist cancer patients in finding suitable bone marrow donors by requiring individual and group health insurance policies to provide coverage for bone marrow testing.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]