



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6545**

January Session, 2013



**AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID DRUG STEP THERAPY.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) The Commissioner of  
2 Social Services may establish a step therapy program for prescription  
3 drugs in the Medicaid program. The commissioner may condition  
4 payment for such drugs on a requirement that the drug prescribed be  
5 from the preferred drug list established pursuant to section 17b-274d  
6 of the general statutes prior to any other drug being prescribed,  
7 provided any step therapy program shall: (1) Require that the patient  
8 try and fail on only one prescribed drug on the preferred drug list  
9 before another drug can be prescribed and eligible for payment; (2) not  
10 apply to any mental health-related drugs; (3) not apply to a drug  
11 generally prescribed for a condition treated on an ongoing basis, either  
12 with continuous medication or a medication taken as needed by a  
13 patient who has had a prescription filled for the same drug within the  
14 preceding one hundred eighty days; and (4) require that the  
15 prescribing practitioner, when medications for the treatment of any  
16 medical condition are restricted due to the step therapy program, has  
17 access to a clear and convenient process to expeditiously request an  
18 override of such restriction from the Department of Social Services.  
19 The department shall expeditiously grant an override of such  
20 restriction whenever the prescribing practitioner demonstrates that:

