

February 27, 2014

Statement
Of
Anthem Blue Cross And Blue Shield
On

S.B. No. 186 (Raised) An Act Concerning Dispensation And Insurance Coverage Of A Prescribed Drug During Review Of An Adverse Determination Or A Final Adverse Determination.

Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, my name is Christine Cappiello and I am the Director of Government Relations for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. I am on testifying on S.B. NO. 186 An Act Concerning Dispensation And Insurance Coverage Of A Prescribed Drug During Review Of An Adverse Determination Or A Final Adverse Determination. While the legislation is intended to be consumer friendly and help consumers and well-intended, it will have some unintended consequences that I want to point out for the committee members. The bill seeks to require insurers to issue medications to members if an denial is issued and a grievance and appeal has commenced. This would mean members could begin a regiment of a drug that ultimately will not be covered and cause an adverse effect or worse that a member begins to take a medication that counteracts with something else that another provider has given the member to take unbeknown to the current treating provider but is known the health plan because we are processing prescriptions from all treating providers for that member.

We hope that the committee takes into consideration these unintended consequences on not only the insurers but more importantly the members as you deliberate this legislation. Thank you for your time and attention.