



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 5257

LCO No. 986



Referred to Committee on INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Introduced by:
(INS)

***AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES FOR COVERED DEPENDENT
CHILDREN WHO ARE YOUNGER THAN NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2021*) Each individual health
2 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
3 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
4 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued
5 in this state on or after January 1, 2021, shall provide coverage to each
6 covered dependent child who is younger than nineteen years of age for
7 at least one pair of prescription eyeglasses, including lenses and frames,
8 during each policy year, except that such policy shall provide coverage
9 for not more than one additional pair of prescription eyeglasses for such
10 child during such policy year if the covered pair of prescription
11 eyeglasses that such child previously received during such policy year
12 is lost during such policy year. Each such policy shall cover a stepchild
13 on the same basis as a biological child.

14 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2021*) Each group health insurance

15 policy providing, through a small employer, as defined in section 38a-
16 518q of the general statutes, coverage of the type specified in
17 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
18 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued
19 in this state on or after January 1, 2021, shall provide coverage to each
20 covered dependent child who is younger than nineteen years of age for
21 at least one pair of prescription eyeglasses, including lenses and frames,
22 during each policy year, except that such policy shall provide coverage
23 for not more than one additional pair of prescription eyeglasses for such
24 child during such policy year if the covered pair of prescription
25 eyeglasses that such child previously received during such policy year
26 is lost during such policy year. Each such policy shall cover a stepchild
27 on the same basis as a biological child.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2021</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require health insurance coverage for (1) at least one pair of prescription eyeglasses during each policy year for each covered dependent child who is younger than nineteen years of age, and (2) not more than one additional pair of prescription eyeglasses for such child during such policy year if the pair of covered prescription eyeglasses that such child previously received during such policy year is lost during such policy year.

[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.]