



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 204

LCO No. 963



Referred to Committee on INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Introduced by:
(INS)

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN SURGICAL PROCEDURES PERFORMED TO TREAT SEVERE OBESITY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2021*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Body mass index" means the number calculated by dividing an
4 individual's weight in kilograms by the individual's height in meters
5 squared; and

6 (2) "Severe obesity" means a body mass index that is:

7 (A) Greater than forty; or

8 (B) Thirty-five or more if an individual has been diagnosed with a
9 comorbid disease or condition, including, but not limited to, a
10 cardiopulmonary condition, diabetes, hypertension or sleep apnea.

11 (b) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of the
12 type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469

13 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended
14 or continued in this state on or after January 1, 2021, shall provide
15 coverage for each surgical procedure that is:

16 (1) Performed to treat severe obesity, including, but not limited to,
17 gastric bypass surgery, sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch
18 surgery;

19 (2) Recognized by the National Institutes of Health, American Society
20 for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and American College of Surgeons
21 as providing long-term weight loss; and

22 (3) Consistent with treatment guidelines issued by the National
23 Institutes of Health as applied to the insured.

24 (c) The benefits required by this section shall be subject to the same
25 terms and conditions that apply to all other benefits covered under a
26 policy that is subject to this section.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2021*) (a) For the purposes of this
28 section:

29 (1) "Body mass index" means the number calculated by dividing an
30 individual's weight in kilograms by the individual's height in meters
31 squared; and

32 (2) "Severe obesity" means a body mass index that is:

33 (A) Greater than forty; or

34 (B) Thirty-five or more if an individual has been diagnosed with a
35 comorbid disease or condition, including, but not limited to, a
36 cardiopulmonary condition, diabetes, hypertension or sleep apnea.

37 (b) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the
38 type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469
39 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended
40 or continued in this state on or after January 1, 2021, shall provide

41 coverage for each surgical procedure that is:

42 (1) Performed to treat severe obesity, including, but not limited to,
43 gastric bypass surgery, sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch
44 surgery;

45 (2) Recognized by the National Institutes of Health, American Society
46 for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and American College of Surgeons
47 as providing long-term weight loss; and

48 (3) Consistent with treatment guidelines issued by the National
49 Institutes of Health as applied to the insured.

50 (c) The benefits required by this section shall be subject to the same
51 terms and conditions that apply to all other benefits covered under a
52 policy that is subject to this section.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To require health insurance coverage for certain surgical procedures performed to treat severe obesity.

[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.]