
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5043

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN IMMUNIZATION CONSULTATIONS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires certain health insurance policies that cover prescription drugs to cover at least a 20-minute immunization consultation between a patient and a provider authorized to prescribe them (e.g., a physician or advanced practice registered nurse). Coverage is only for consultations on immunizations recommended for the patient by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The bill applies to individual and group health insurance policies delivered, issued, renewed, amended, or continued in Connecticut that cover (1) basic hospital expenses; (2) basic medical-surgical expenses; (3) major medical expenses; or (4) hospital or medical services, including those provided under an HMO plan. Because of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), state insurance benefit mandates do not apply to self-insured benefit plans.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2021

BACKGROUND

Insurance Coverage for Immunizations

Existing law requires health insurance policies that cover prescription drugs to also cover certain immunizations for children, adolescents, and adults. Specifically, they must cover immunizations (1) recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and (2) that have, in effect, a recommendation from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices with respect to the individual involved. These

include, among others, immunizations for influenza, meningitis, tetanus, HPV, hepatitis A and B, measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (02/24/2020)