



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 3

February Session, 2020

House Bill No. 5043

House of Representatives, March 10, 2020

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. STEINBERG of the 136th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN IMMUNIZATION CONSULTATIONS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 38a-492r of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
3 *1, 2021*):

4 (a) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of the
5 type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469
6 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this
7 state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide
8 [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the
9 American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family
10 Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and
11 Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect
12 a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization
13 Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect
14 to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least

15 a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care
16 provider authorized to prescribe such immunizations to such
17 individual.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 38a-518r of the general statutes is
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
20 *1, 2021*):

21 (a) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the type
22 specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469
23 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this
24 state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide
25 [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the
26 American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family
27 Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and
28 Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect
29 a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization
30 Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect
31 to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least
32 a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care
33 provider authorized to prescribe such immunizations to such
34 individual.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2021	38a-492r(a)
Sec. 2	January 1, 2021	38a-518r(a)

PH Joint Favorable

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or fully insured municipal plans as the bill's provisions are currently covered as part of an individual's wellness exam. Wellness exams are covered benefits under the state health plan and fully insured municipal plans. In addition, the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires specific preventative care benefits to be provided as part of ACA plans' essential health benefits (EHBs) including all recommended immunizations. PA 18-10 codified the EHB requirements of the ACA, including coverage for preventative care benefits in state law.

Pursuant to federal law, self-insured plans are exempt from state health insurance mandates.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

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)