HEALTH/ACC INSURANCE. Provides for health insurance coverage of cancer treatments. (8/1/22)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1054.1(A), relative to insurance coverage for cancer treatments; to prohibit denial of coverage in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1054.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1054.1. Requirement for coverage of cancer treatment targeting a specific genetic mutation

A. No health coverage plan delivered or issued for delivery in this state shall deny coverage for the treatment of metastatic or unresectable tumors or other advanced cancers with a medically necessary drug prescribed by a physician on the sole basis that the drug is not indicated for the specific tumor type or location in the body of the patient's cancer if the drug is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of the specific mutation of the patient's in a different type of cancer. Insurers may not deem the treatment experimental or outside of their policy scope. Such This coverage may be denied only if an alternative treatment has proven to be more effective in published randomized

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in boldface type and underscored are additions.
Present law prohibits denial of health insurance coverage for the treatment of metastatic or unresectable tumors with a medically necessary drug prescribed by a physician on the sole basis that the drug is not indicated for the location in the body of the patient's cancer if the drug is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of the specific mutation of the patient's cancer. Provides that coverage may be denied if an alternative treatment has proven to be more effective in published randomized clinical trials and is not contraindicated in the patient.

Proposed law retains the present prohibition but applies it to the treatment of other advanced cancers and that the prohibition cannot be the basis that the drug is not indicated for the specific tumor type. Provides that the insurer many not deem the treatment experimental or outside of their policy scope. Provides that coverage may only be denied if an alternative treatment has proven to be more effective in published randomized clinical trials and is not contraindicated in the patient.

Effective on August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 22:1054.1(A))