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## DIGEST

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HB 622 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Hilferty

**Abstract:** Requires health insurance coverage, including Medicaid coverage, for histotripsy procedures to treat cancers of the liver.

Proposed law requires a health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans (plans) in the state of La. that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to cover histotripsy procedures for the treatment of primary and metastatic tumors in the liver if the person presents with the following conditions:

- (1) Residual disease after first-line treatment of chemotherapy.
- (2) Metastatic colorectal cancer with liver-dominant or liver-only metastatic disease where a physician has determined surgery is not a good option for the patient.
- (3) Tumors up to 4 centimeters or larger if the tumor can be treated in its entirety.
- (4) Metastatic neuroendocrine tumors with systemic symptoms associated with elevated hormone levels.

Proposed law applies to coverage through Medicaid plans and provider organizations.

Proposed law authorizes plans and Medicaid provider organizations to apply annual deductibles, coinsurance, copayments, or other established cost-sharing mechanisms.

Proposed law requires a health maintenance organization, health insurance organization, or managed care organization providing or coordinating healthcare services to Medicaid enrollees to also provide certain documents to the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) that address treatment for rare and less common cancers through consultation with certain subspecialists.

Proposed law defines "histotripsy" as a non-invasive procedure that uses high-intensity sound waves to selectively destroy cancer tissue in the liver.

Proposed law applies to any new policy, contract, or plan issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026. Requires any policy, contract, or plan in effect prior to Jan. 1, 2026, to convert to conform to proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than Jan. 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 22:1077.4 and R.S. 40:1081.13)

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Insurance to the original bill:

1. Require patients to meet any one of certain conditions for treatment eligibility.
2. Apply proposed law to Medicaid enrollees who meet conditions for treatment and require Medicare provider organizations to provide certain documentation to LDH.
3. Apply proposed law to new policies, contracts, or plans issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026. Require existing policies, contracts, or plans to conform with proposed law by Jan. 1, 2027.