

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 77

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

MEDICAID. Provides relative to prior authorization of prescription drugs. (8/1/22)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2), relative to Medicaid coverage for prescription drugs; to  
3 provide for prescribed drugs used to treat serious mental illness; and to provide for  
4 related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §153.3. Medical vendor reimbursements; allowable restrictions; peer-based  
8 prescribing and dispensing practice patterns; Medicaid  
9 Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee

10 \* \* \*

11 C. \* \* \*

12 **(2) The department shall not restrict by prior authorization any**  
13 **prescription drug prescribed to an adult patient and determined by a**  
14 **prescribing practitioner licensed by the state to be medically necessary for the**  
15 **treatment and prevention of serious mental illness, including but not limited to**  
16 **first episode psychosis, if both of the following conditions are met:**

17 **(a) During the preceding year, the patient was prescribed and**

1 unsuccessfully treated with a fourteen-day treatment trial of the prescribed  
2 drug included on the single preferred drug list for which a claim was paid.

3 (b) The patient has previously been prescribed and obtained prior  
4 authorization for the nonpreferred prescribed drug.

5 \* \* \*

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

SB 77 Original DIGEST Luneau  
2022 Regular Session

Present law provides for prescription drug coverage in the Louisiana Medicaid program, including a preferred drug list established in conjunction with a prior approval process.

Proposed law retains present law but prohibits any restriction by prior authorization of a prescription drug prescribed to an adult patient and determined by a licensed prescriber to be medically necessary for the treatment and prevention of serious mental illness if, during the preceding year, the patient was unsuccessfully treated with the preferred drug and the patient has previously been prescribed and obtained prior authorization for the nonpreferred prescribed drug.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2))