

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 187

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

MEDICAID. Creates a pilot program for Medicaid recipients to utilize portable oxygen concentrators. (8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:460.76.1, relative to a pilot program for Medicaid recipients to utilize  
3 portable oxygen concentrators; to provide for a pilot program developed by the  
4 Louisiana Department of Health; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 46:460.76.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§460.76.1. Medicaid pilot program; portable oxygen concentrator; fund**

8 **A.(1) The legislature finds that Louisiana Medicaid covers portable**  
9 **oxygen concentrators to Medicaid beneficiaries under twenty-one years of age,**  
10 **if deemed medically necessary, through the Early and Periodic Screening,**  
11 **Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. However, for individuals over the**  
12 **age of twenty-one, Medicaid only covers portable oxygen concentrators for**  
13 **travel to medical appointments and treatment.**

14 **(2) The legislature further finds that providing Medicaid coverage for**  
15 **portable oxygen concentrators beyond the limited circumstances in current**  
16 **policy could greatly improve the quality of life for Louisiana residents who**  
17 **require oxygen but are mobile within the home or community.**

1            **B.(1) The Louisiana Department of Health shall establish a pilot**  
2            **program to provide coverage for portable oxygen concentrators in the same**  
3            **manner as stationary oxygen systems if a portable concentrator is prescribed**  
4            **by a licensed physician and the enrollee is mobile within the home or**  
5            **community.**

6            **(2) The Louisiana Department of Health may limit the number of**  
7            **portable oxygen concentrators covered each fiscal year in a manner determined**  
8            **through rules promulgated by the department.**

9            **C. The department shall submit a utilization report to the legislature no**  
10           **later than thirty days prior to the legislative session. The report shall include the**  
11           **number of requests for portable oxygen concentrators, the number of portable**  
12           **concentrators that were covered, the number of requests that were denied, the**  
13           **amount and means of financing of funds utilized to provide coverage, the**  
14           **amount of funds needed to provide coverage for requests that were denied due**  
15           **to lack of funds, and the demographics of enrollees that requested, received, or**  
16           **were denied coverage for portable concentrators.**

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

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SB 187 Engrossed

DIGEST  
2024 Regular Session

Boudreaux

Proposed law requires the Louisiana Department of Health to establish a pilot program to provide portable oxygen concentrators to enrollees who are mobile within the home or community.

Proposed law authorizes the department to limit the number of concentrators that are covered and to submit a utilization report to the legislature.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 46:460.76.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Makes changes to the legislative intent and requirements for the pilot program.
2. Removes language that creates a fund.