

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 392****2024 Regular Session****Freeman**

MEDICAID: Provides relative to Medicaid and private insurance coverage for perimenopausal and menopausal care

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Requires health insurance issuers that offer health coverage plans in this state to provide coverage for any medically necessary care or treatment for menopause and perimenopause.
2. Prohibits health insurance issuers from requiring prior authorization or otherwise being subject to a step-therapy or fail-first policy or protocol for the administration or prescription of any medication administered or prescribed for hormone replacement therapy used to treat symptoms of menopause and perimenopause.
3. Removes proposed law provision that requires health insurance issuers in this state that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits for insured individuals to provide coverage for expenses incurred for medically necessary perimenopausal and menopausal care or treatment.
4. Makes technical corrections.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law requires a health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans in this state to provide coverage for any medically necessary care or treatment for menopause and perimenopause.

Proposed law prohibits health insurance issuers from requiring prior authorization or otherwise being subject to a step-therapy or fail-first policy or protocol for the administration or prescription of any medication administered or prescribed for hormone replacement therapy used to treat symptoms of menopause and perimenopause.

Proposed law requires La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to make available to persons who are eligible for Medicaid benefits under present law coverage benefits for hormonal menopausal care for any woman who is experiencing menopausal or perimenopausal symptoms.

Proposed law defines "perimenopausal" and "menopause".

Proposed law provides that symptoms for which such funding shall be made available include but are not limited to the following:

- (1) Irregular menstrual periods.
- (2) Hot flashes.
- (3) Vaginal or bladder problems.
- (4) Decrease in fertility.
- (5) Loss of bone.

(6) Increase in low-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels.

(7) Sleep disruption, which includes night sweats.

Proposed law provides that LDH may seek approval of a federal Medicaid waiver and state plan amendments as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this proposed law.

Proposed law requires the Medicaid program in this state to cover inpatient and, if deemed appropriate, outpatient coverage for perimenopausal or menopausal treatment or care when such care or treatment, is used for a medically accepted indication, and administered in any healthcare facility by any healthcare professional appropriately licensed in this state to provide such medical treatment or care in accordance with state and federal provisions.

Proposed law provides that the eligibility of a prospective enrollee shall be determined by the healthcare facility appropriately providing perimenopausal or menopausal treatment or care as provided in proposed law.

Proposed law establishes certain requirements for the secretary of LDH in compliance with proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 22:988 and R.S. 40:1259.1 and 1259.2)