

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 784 (HB 392)

2024 Regular Session

Freeman

New 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.

New 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.

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

New 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.

New law defines "perimenopause" and "menopause".

New law allows LDH to seek approval of a federal Medicaid waiver and state plan amendments as may be necessary to implement the provisions of new law.

New 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.

New 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 new law.

New law assigns certain tasks to the secretary of LDH in compliance with the provisions of new law.

Effective August 1, 2024.

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