

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 152

BY REPRESENTATIVES BROWN, BAGLEY, AND STAGNI

INSURANCE/HEALTH: Provides for insurance coverage for acupuncture

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 22:1057, relative to insurance coverage for acupuncture; to require coverage
3 for acupuncture performed by a licensed acupuncturist; to prohibit discriminatory
4 terminology; to define key terms; to provide for applicability; to provide for an
5 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 22:1057 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1057. Acupuncture; reimbursement

9 A.(1)(a) Any health coverage plan delivered or issued for delivery in this
10 state in the large group market, as defined in R.S. 22:1091(B), shall provide coverage
11 for any acupuncture performed by an individual licensed pursuant to R.S. 37:1356
12 et seq., when such services are medically necessary and not otherwise excluded from
13 coverage.

14 (b) Terminology in a policy or contract deemed discriminatory against any
15 person or method of practice, including but not limited to the manner of payment or
16 reimbursement under the policy, shall be null and void.

17 (2) The coverage provided pursuant to this Section may be subject to annual
18 deductibles, coinsurance, and copayment provisions as are consistent with those
19 established under the health coverage plan.

20 (3) The coverage provided pursuant to this Section may be limited to twelve
21 annual visits for acupuncture treatment per policy or contract.

1, 2021, shall convert to conform to the provisions of proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than Jan. 1, 2022.

Effective Jan. 1, 2021.

(Adds R.S. 22:1057)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Specify that the health coverage plan referenced in proposed law means the "large group market" as defined in present law, (R.S. 22:1091(B)), and require the coverage of acupuncture when medically necessary and not otherwise excluded from coverage.
2. Provide that coverage for acupuncture treatment may be limited to 12 annual visits per policy or contract.
3. Change the effective date relative to policy, contract, or health coverage plan renewals from Jan. 1, 2021 to Jan. 1, 2022.
4. Make technical changes.