
DIGEST

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HB 152 Engrossed

2020 Regular Session

Brown

Abstract: Requires insurance coverage for acupuncture performed by a licensed acupuncturist.

Proposed law requires any health coverage plan in the large market group, delivered or issued for delivery in this state, to provide coverage for acupuncture performed by an individual licensed by law, when the service is medically necessary and not otherwise excluded from coverage.

Proposed law prohibits terminology in a policy or contract deemed discriminatory against any person or method of practice, including but not limited to the manner of payment or reimbursement under the policy.

Proposed law provides that required coverage may be subject to annual deductibles, coinsurance, and copayment provisions as are consistent with those established under the health coverage plan.

Proposed law provides that coverage for acupuncture treatment may be limited to 12 annual visits per policy or contract.

Proposed law applies to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on and after Jan. 1, 2021. Any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to Jan. 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.