AN ACT

To enact R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2), relative to Medicaid coverage for prescription drugs; to provide for prescribed drugs used to treat serious mental illness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.  R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§153.3. Medical vendor reimbursements; allowable restrictions; peer-based prescribing and dispensing practice patterns; Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee

*          *          *

C. *          *          *

(2) The department shall not restrict by prior authorization any prescription drug prescribed to an adult patient and determined by a prescribing practitioner licensed by the state to be medically necessary for the treatment and prevention of serious mental illness, including but not limited to first episode psychosis, if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) During the preceding year, the patient was prescribed and
unsuccessfully treated with a fourteen-day treatment trial of the prescribed
drug included on the single preferred drug list for which a claim was paid.

(b) The patient has previously been prescribed and obtained prior
authorization for the nonpreferred prescribed drug.

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

**DIGEST**

SB 77 Original  2022 Regular Session  Luneau

Present law provides for prescription drug coverage in the Louisiana Medicaid program,
including a preferred drug list established in conjunction with a prior approval process.

Proposed law retains present law but prohibits any restriction by prior authorization of a
prescription drug prescribed to an adult patient and determined by a licensed prescriber to
be medically necessary for the treatment and prevention of serious mental illness if, during
the preceding year, the patient was unsuccessfully treated with the preferred drug and the
patient has previously been prescribed and obtained prior authorization for the nonpreferred
prescribed drug.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 46:153.3(C)(2))