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 schizophrenia and schizotypal or any delusion disorders if, during the preceding year, the patient was unsuccessfully treated with the preferred drug or the patient has previously been prescribed and obtained prior authorization for the nonpreferred drug and the request is in accordance with federal requirements.

Effective August 1, 2022.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Narrows the scope of the bill to drugs that treat schizophrenia and schizotypal or delusion disorders.

2. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Changes number of conditions required for a nonpreferred drug to be approved.

2. Clarifies the requests must be in accordance with federal requirements.

3. Removes time requirements relative to prior treatment usage.

4. Makes technical changes.