

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 357

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

INSURANCE/HEALTH: Requires health insurance coverage for integrative cancer treatments

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 22:1077.4 and R.S. 40:1105.14, relative to integrative treatments for cancer; to require health insurance coverage for such treatments; to provide application to Medicare and Medicaid coverage; to provide for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1077.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1077.4. Required coverage for integrative cancer treatments; acupuncture; cooling systems; cryotherapy; dental services

A. A health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans in this state that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits for individuals covered under a respective plan shall provide coverage for integrative cancer treatments, including acupuncture, cryotherapy, dental services, and scalp cooling systems used in connection with medical treatment for cancer. Coverage provided pursuant to this Section may be subject to annual deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments consistent with those established under the health coverage plan. The provisions of this Section apply to individuals eligible for Medicare coverage.

B. Dental services include dental evaluations and, if deemed appropriate, subsequent treatments or extractions for patients requiring bisphosphonates in cancer

1 treatments when medically necessary and appropriate to treat the individual's
2 condition.

3 C. For the purposes of this Section, "scalp cooling system" means any device
4 used to cool the human scalp to prevent or reduce hair loss during chemotherapy
5 treatment for cancer, provided that such device is designed and intended for repeated
6 use and is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose.

7 Section 2. R.S. 40:1105.14 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1105.14. Medicaid coverage; integrative cancer treatments; acupuncture; cooling
9 systems; cryotherapy; dental services; qualifications

10 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall make available to persons who
11 are eligible for Medicaid benefits under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42
12 U.S.C. 1396 et seq., coverage for integrative cancer treatments, including
13 acupuncture, cryotherapy, dental services, and scalp cooling systems used in
14 connection with medical treatment for cancer. Coverage provided pursuant to this
15 Section may be subject to copayments, deductibles, or other cost-sharing
16 mechanisms.

17 B.(1) Dental services include dental evaluations and, if deemed appropriate,
18 subsequent treatments or extractions for patients requiring bisphosphonates in cancer
19 treatments.

20 (2) The healthcare facility appropriately providing the dental services shall
21 determine patient eligibility in accordance with state and federal guidelines or
22 certifications. An enrollee shall be considered eligible for dental evaluation,
23 treatment, or extraction if the individual satisfies all of the following qualifications:

24 (a) The individual is enrolled in the Louisiana Medicaid program.

25 (b) A licensed healthcare provider certifies that the dental service is
26 medically necessary and appropriate to treat the individual's condition.

27 (c) The dental services are administered in a facility appropriately licensed
28 or certified to provide services in accordance with state and federal guidelines or
29 certifications.

1 C. For the purposes of this Section, "scalp cooling system" means any device
2 used to cool the human scalp to prevent or reduce hair loss during chemotherapy
3 treatment for cancer, provided that such device is designed and intended for repeated
4 use and is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose.
5 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2026.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 357 Original

2025 Regular Session

Freeman

Abstract: Requires health insurers, including Medicare and Medicaid providers, to cover integrative cancer treatments in combination with medical treatment for cancer.

Proposed law requires a health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans in the state of La. that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to cover integrative cancer treatments, including acupuncture, scalp cooling systems, cryotherapy, and dental services when such treatments are combined with medical treatment for cancer.

Proposed law requires coverage for dental evaluations and, if deemed appropriate, subsequent treatments or extractions requiring bisphosphonates.

Proposed law authorizes health coverage plans to apply annual deductibles, coinsurance, copayments, and other cost-sharing mechanisms established under the plan.

Proposed law applies to treatments for persons eligible for Medicare and Medicaid coverage.

Proposed law provides certain eligibility criteria for Medicaid enrollees receiving dental services. Requires a healthcare facility appropriately providing the dental services to determine patient eligibility in accordance with state and federal guidelines or certifications. Further requires dental services to be medically necessary and appropriate to treat the individual's condition.

Proposed law defines "scalp cooling system".

Effective January 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 22:1077.4 and R.S. 40:1105.14)