

By Representative Edwards

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to insurance coverage for drugs
3 to treat chronic, disabling, or
4 life-threatening illnesses; amending s.
5 627.4239, F.S.; prohibiting insurers from
6 excluding coverage for certain drugs in certain
7 insurance policies; amending s. 641.31, F.S.;
8 requiring health maintenance organizations
9 providing coverage for certain drugs to comply
10 with certain requirements; providing an
11 effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 627.4239, Florida
16 Statutes, is amended to read:

17 627.4239 Coverage for use of drugs in treatment of
18 cancer or chronic, disabling, or life-threatening illnesses.--

19 (2) COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF CANCER OR CHRONIC,
20 DISABLING, OR LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESSES.--

21 (a) An insurer may not exclude coverage in any
22 individual or group insurance policy issued, amended,
23 delivered, or renewed in this state which covers the treatment
24 of cancer or other chronic, disabling, or life-threatening
25 illnesses for any drug prescribed for the treatment of cancer
26 or such illnesses on the ground that the drug is not approved
27 by the United States Food and Drug Administration for a
28 particular indication, if that drug is recognized for
29 treatment of that indication in a standard reference
30 compendium or recommended in the medical literature.

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1 (b) Coverage for a drug required by this section also
2 includes the medically necessary services associated with the
3 administration of the drug.

4 Section 2. Subsection (39) is added to section 641.31,
5 Florida Statutes, to read:

6 641.31 Health maintenance contracts.--

7 (39) A health maintenance organization which covers
8 drugs for the treatment of cancer or a chronic, disabling, or
9 life-threatening illness shall comply with s. 627.4239.

10 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

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12 HOUSE SUMMARY

13 Prohibits insurers and health maintenance organizations
14 from excluding coverage in insurance policies covering
15 treatment of cancer or other chronic, disabling, or
16 life-threatening illnesses for drugs prescribed to treat
17 cancer or such illnesses.