## SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## **SENATE BILL NO. 852**

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BLAND.

Pre-filed December 21, 2001, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

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TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to insurance coverage for weight reduction counseling.

AN ACT

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 376.786, to read as follows:

376.786. No policy issued by an entity offering individual and group health insurance which provides coverage on an expense-incurred basis, individual or group health service, or indemnity contracts issued by a nonprofit corporation, individual and group service contracts issued by a health maintenance organization, all selfinsured group health arrangements to the extent not preempted by federal law, and all health care plans provided by managed health care delivery entities of any type or description shall be offered, issued or renewed in this state on or after August 28, 2002, unless the policy, plan or contract offers optional coverage for expenses arising from weight reduction counseling services for any policyholder or contract holder who is at least fifty pounds overweight and has been diagnosed by a physician to have current or potential future health problems related to such excess weight. The weight reduction counseling may be on an individual or group basis.