

SENATE BILL NO. 1449

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCHROER.

5950S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to insurance coverage of alternatives to opioid drugs.

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

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 376.1280, to read as
3 follows:

376.1280. 1. As used in this section, the following
2 terms mean:

3 (1) "Acute pain", pain that results from disease,
4 accidental or intentional trauma, or other causes, that a
5 health care provider reasonably expects to last thirty days
6 or fewer;

7 (2) "Enrollee", the same meaning given to the term in
8 section 376.1350;

9 (3) "Health benefit plan", the same meaning given to
10 the term in section 376.1350;

11 (4) "Health care professional", the same meaning given
12 to the term in section 376.1350.

13 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
14 contrary, when a licensed health care professional acting
15 within the scope of his or her license prescribes a
16 nonopioid medication for the treatment of acute pain to an
17 enrollee, it shall be unlawful for a health benefit plan to:

18 (1) Deny coverage of the nonopioid prescription drug
19 in favor of an opioid prescription drug;

20 (2) Require the enrollee to try an opioid prescription
21 drug before providing coverage of the nonopioid prescription
22 drug; or

23 (3) Require a higher level of cost-sharing for the
24 nonopioid prescription drug than for an opioid prescription
25 drug.

26 3. This section shall apply to health benefit plans
27 delivered, issued for delivery, continued, or renewed on or
28 after January 1, 2027.

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