



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 317

January Session, 2019



AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN SURGICAL PROCEDURES PERFORMED TO TREAT SEVERE OBESITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2020*) (a) For the purposes of
2 this section:

3 (1) "Body mass index" means the number calculated by dividing an
4 individual's weight in kilograms by the individual's height in meters
5 squared; and

6 (2) "Severe obesity" means a body mass index that is:

7 (A) Greater than forty; or

8 (B) Thirty-five or more if an individual has been diagnosed with a
9 comorbid disease or condition, including, but not limited to, a
10 cardiopulmonary condition, diabetes, hypertension or sleep apnea.

11 (b) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of
12 the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section
13 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed,
14 amended or continued in this state on or after January 1, 2020, shall
15 provide coverage for each surgical procedure that is:

16 (1) Performed to treat severe obesity, including, but not limited to,

17 gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch;

18 (2) Recognized by the National Institutes of Health, American
19 Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and American College of
20 Surgeons as providing long-term weight loss; and

21 (3) Consistent with guidelines issued by the National Institutes of
22 Health.

23 (c) The benefits required by this section shall be subject to the same
24 terms and conditions that apply to all other benefits covered under a
25 policy that is subject to this section.

26 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2020*) (a) For the purposes of this
27 section:

28 (1) "Body mass index" means the number calculated by dividing an
29 individual's weight in kilograms by the individual's height in meters
30 squared; and

31 (2) "Severe obesity" means a body mass index that is:

32 (A) Greater than forty; or

33 (B) Thirty-five or more if an individual has been diagnosed with a
34 comorbid disease or condition, including, but not limited to, a
35 cardiopulmonary condition, diabetes, hypertension or sleep apnea.

36 (b) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the
37 type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-
38 469 of the general statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed,
39 amended or continued in this state on or after January 1, 2020, shall
40 provide coverage for each surgical procedure that is:

41 (1) Performed to treat severe obesity, including, but not limited to,
42 gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch;

43 (2) Recognized by the National Institutes of Health, American

44 Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and American College of
45 Surgeons as providing long-term weight loss; and

46 (3) Consistent with guidelines issued by the National Institutes of
47 Health.

48 (c) The benefits required by this section shall be subject to the same
49 terms and conditions that apply to all other benefits covered under a
50 policy that is subject to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(a)(2)(A) and Section 2(a)(2)(A), "kilograms per meter squared" was deleted to avoid repetition; and Section 1(a)(2)(B) and Section 2(a)(2)(B) were rewritten for clarity.

INS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*