
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 869 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY D. WILLIAMS, BRENNAN, GUENST, HANBIDGE, HILL-
EVANS, HOWARD, KHAN, KINSEY, KRAJEWSKI, MADDEN, OTTEN, RABB
AND SANCHEZ, APRIL 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, APRIL 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), entitled "An
2 act relating to insurance; amending, revising, and
3 consolidating the law providing for the incorporation of
4 insurance companies, and the regulation, supervision, and
5 protection of home and foreign insurance companies, Lloyds
6 associations, reciprocal and inter-insurance exchanges, and
7 fire insurance rating bureaus, and the regulation and
8 supervision of insurance carried by such companies,
9 associations, and exchanges, including insurance carried by
10 the State Workmen's Insurance Fund; providing penalties; and
11 repealing existing laws," in casualty insurance, providing
12 for coverage of medication assisted treatment.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. The act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known
16 as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, is amended by adding a
17 section to read:

18 Section 635.9. Coverage of Medication Assisted Treatment.--

19 (a) A health insurance policy or government program that is
20 offered, issued or renewed in this Commonwealth shall provide
21 coverage for MAT, including coverage for counseling and
22 behavioral therapies and any fees related to the provision of

1 MAT.

2 (b) The use of prior authorization for the approval of MAT
3 is prohibited, including prior authorization used for approval
4 of MAT in a health insurance policy or government program that
5 is issued or renewed in this Commonwealth.

6 (c) The following words and phrases when used in this
7 section shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection
8 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 "Controlled substance." As defined in section 2 of the act
10 of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as "The Controlled
11 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act."

12 "Drug." As defined in section 2 of "The Controlled
13 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act."

14 "Government program." The term includes:

15 (1) The Commonwealth's medical assistance program
16 established under the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21),
17 known as the "Human Services Code."

18 (2) The Children's Health Insurance Program.

19 "Health insurance policy." As defined in 40 Pa.C.S. § 9103
20 (relating to definitions).

21 "Medication assisted treatment" or "MAT." The use of
22 medication, approved by the United States Food and Drug
23 Administration, in combination with counseling and behavioral
24 therapies to treat a substance use disorder.

25 "Substance use disorder." A chronic, relapsing medical
26 illness characterized by:

27 (1) recurrent use of a drug or controlled substance despite
28 harmful consequences;

29 (2) long-lasting changes in brain chemistry;

30 (3) clinically significant impairment, including physical or

1 mental health problems or disability; or
2 (4) the inability or failure to meet the demands of and
3 responsibilities at work, school or home.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.