

2021 -- H 5196

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

Introduced By: Representatives Kennedy, Azzinaro, Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, and  
Solomon

Date Introduced: January 27, 2021

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 27-20.8 of the General Laws entitled "Prescription Drug Benefits" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **27-20.8-3. Co-pay cap for prescription insulin.**

4           (a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, "prescription insulin drug"  
5 means a prescription drug, as defined in § 21-31-2, that contains insulin and is used to treat diabetes.

6           (b) A carrier that provides coverage for prescription insulin drugs pursuant to the terms of  
7 a health coverage plan the carrier offers shall cap the total amount that a covered person is required  
8 to pay for a covered prescription insulin drug at an amount not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00), per  
9 thirty (30) day supply of insulin, regardless of the amount or type of insulin needed to fill the  
10 covered person's prescription. Coverage for prescription insulin drugs shall not be subject to any  
11 deductible.

12           (c) Nothing in this section prevents a carrier from reducing a covered person's cost sharing  
13 to an amount less than the amount specified in subsection (b) of this section.

14           (d) The health insurance commissioner may use any of their enforcement powers to obtain  
15 a carrier's compliance with this section.

16           (e) The commissioner may promulgate rules as necessary to implement and administer this  
17 section and to align with federal requirements.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

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1           This act would provide that health insurance carriers that provide coverage for prescription  
2 insulin drugs used to treat diabetes shall only be allowed to charge up to fifty (\$50.00) dollars for  
3 a copayment for a thirty (30) day supply of insulin regardless of the amount or type of insulin  
4 needed to fill the covered person's prescription. Coverage for prescription insulin would not be  
5 subject to any deductible.

6           This act would take effect on January 1, 2022.

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