



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 300

Assembly Amendment 1

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Under current law, a health insurance policy or plan may impose cost-sharing charges, including copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance charges. The charges may differ for various medical treatments and prescriptions, depending on the formulation or benefit category determination by the policy or plan.

The Bill

2013 Senate Bill 300 (the bill) imposes a cost-sharing parity requirement for coverage of oral chemotherapy and injected or intravenous chemotherapy. The requirement affects only health insurance policies or plans that provide coverage for **both** oral chemotherapy and injected or intravenous chemotherapy. Under the parity requirement, a policy or plan is prohibited from charging the insured a higher copayment, deductible, or coinsurance amount for oral chemotherapy than for injected or intravenous chemotherapy, regardless of the formulation or benefit category determination by the policy or plan.

The bill applies to coverage provided under an individual or group health insurance policy or under a self-insured governmental or school district health plan. The parity requirement under the bill initially applies to policies and plans issued or renewed on the first day of the seventh month after publication.

The Amendment

Assembly Amendment 1 (the amendment) to Senate Bill 300 creates an alternative method for complying with the parity requirement under the bill. Under the amendment, a policy or plan that limits copayments to no more than \$100 for a 30-day supply of oral chemotherapy medication is considered to be in compliance with the parity requirement. The \$100 limit is allowed to be adjusted for inflation beginning in 2016.

The amendment also creates an exception for a policy or plan that is a high-deductible, catastrophic health plan, as defined under federal law. Under the amendment, that type of plan will not be subject to the parity requirement under the bill until the deductible has been satisfied.

The amendment also modifies the bill's initial applicability provision. Under the amendment, the bill first applies to policies and plans issued or renewed on January 1, 2015, instead of those issued or renewed on the first day of the seventh month after publication.

Bill History

On January 22, 2014, the Senate Committee on Insurance and Housing recommended passage of the bill on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0. On March 18, 2014, the Senate passed the bill on a vote of Ayes, 30; Noes, 2; Not Voting, 1. On March 20, 2014, the Assembly adopted the amendment on a voice vote and concurred in the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 75; Noes, 18; Paired, 2.

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