

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 771

BY REPRESENTATIVES FOIL AND PATRICK WILLIAMS

INSURANCE/HEALTH: Provides relative to the mandate for coverage of diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1050(A)(1), (D)(1), and (G)(11)(introductory paragraph) and
3 to repeal R.S. 22:1050(H)(1) and (2), relative to the mandate for coverage of
4 diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders; to raise the age for such
5 coverage; to eliminate the limitation on lifetime benefits; to provide with respect to
6 supervision of treatment of autism spectrum disorders; to provide relative to
7 applicability; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 22:1050(A)(1), (D)(1), and (G)(11)(introductory paragraph) are
10 hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §1050. Requirement for coverage of diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum
12 disorders in individuals less than ~~seventeen~~ twenty-one years of age

13 A.(1) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection H of this Section, any
14 health coverage plan specified in Paragraph (G)(6) of this Section which is issued for
15 delivery, delivered, renewed, or otherwise contracted for in this state on or after
16 January 1, ~~2009~~, 2013, shall provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of
17 autism spectrum disorders in individuals less than ~~seventeen~~ twenty-one years of age.

18 * * *

1 D.(1) Coverage under this Section shall be subject to a maximum benefit of
2 thirty-six thousand dollars per year, ~~and a lifetime maximum benefit of one hundred~~
3 ~~forty-four thousand dollars.~~

4 * * *

5 G. As used in this Section:

6 * * *

7 (11) "Treatment of autism spectrum disorders" shall include the following
8 care prescribed, provided, or ordered for an individual diagnosed with one of the
9 autism spectrum disorders by a physician or psychologist who shall be licensed in
10 this state; ~~and who shall supervise provision of such care:~~

11 * * *

12 Section 2. R.S. 22:1050(H)(1) and (2) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Foil

HB No. 771

Abstract: Raises age for mandated health insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders from 17 to 21, eliminates lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000, provides relative to supervision of treatment, and provides for applicability.

Proposed law changes present law relative to mandated health insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders as follows:

- (1) Present law provides that such mandated coverage applies only to individuals less than 17 years of age.

Proposed law raises the age for such mandated coverage so that it applies only to individuals less than 21 years of age.

- (2) Present law imposes an annual maximum benefit of \$36,000 and a lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000.

Proposed law eliminates the lifetime maximum benefit of \$144,000.

- (3) Present law defines "treatment of autism spectrum disorders" to include certain care prescribed, provided, or ordered for an individual diagnosed with one of the autism spectrum disorders by a physician or psychologist who shall be licensed in this state and who shall supervise provision of such care.

Proposed law deletes the requirement that such treatment be supervised by a physician or psychologist licensed in this state.

- (4) Present law provides that such mandated coverage shall not apply to any coverage plan issued to an employer with 50 or fewer employees or to individually underwritten, guaranteed renewable health insurance policies.

Proposed law instead provides that such mandated coverage shall not apply to any coverage plan issued to an employer with 10 or fewer employees and deletes the exclusion for individually underwritten, guaranteed renewable health insurance policies.

(Amends R.S. 22:1050(A)(1), (D)(1), and (G)(11)(intro. para.); Repeals R.S. 22:1050(H)(1) and (2))