

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 693

By: Pederson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to health insurance; defining terms; requiring coverage of equine-assisted therapy under certain circumstances; specifying terms of coverage; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6060.19 of Title 36, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Equine-assisted therapy" means hippotherapy, a physical, occupational, and speech therapy that utilizes the natural gait and movement of a horse to provide motor and sensory input;

2. "Health benefit plan" means a health benefit plan as defined pursuant to Section 6060.4 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

3. "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined pursuant to Section 3090.2 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

1 B. Any health benefit plan, including the Oklahoma Employees
2 Insurance Plan, that is offered, issued, or renewed on or after the
3 effective date of this act shall provide coverage for equine-
4 assisted therapy if such therapy is deemed medically or
5 therapeutically necessary by a health care provider licensed to
6 operate under the laws of this state.

7 C. The coverage provided by this section shall be subject to
8 the same annual deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance limits as
9 established for all covered benefits under the health benefit plan.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective January 1, 2024.

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