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Introduced by Representatives Weed of Enosburgh, Chesnut-Tangerman of
Middletown Springs, Cina of Burlington, Colburn of
Burlington, Dunn of Essex, Gonzalez of Winooski, Haas of
Rochester, McCormack of Burlington, Till of Jericho, and
Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; health insurance; feeding tube; enteral formula

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require health
insurance coverage for nonprescription enteral formula for home use.

An act relating to health insurance coverage for enteral formula for home
use

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 15 is added to read:

Subchapter 15. Enteral Formula

§ 41001. NONPRESCRIPTION ENTERAL FORMULA FOR HOME USE

(a) A health insurance plan shall provide coverage for nonprescription
elemental enteral formula for home use if:

1 (1) the formula is medically necessary for the treatment of impaired
2 absorption of nutrients caused by one or more disorders affecting the
3 absorptive surface, functional length, or motility of the gastrointestinal tract;

4 (2) the prescribing physician has issued a written order for the
5 formula; and

6 (3) the formula comprises the sole source, or an essential source, for
7 meeting the patient's nutritional needs.

8 (b) Coverage for nonprescription elemental enteral formula shall not be
9 subject to any greater co-payment, coinsurance, deductible, or other
10 cost-sharing requirement than that applicable to any other benefit covered
11 under the health insurance plan.

12 (c) As used in this section, "health insurance plan" means a health
13 insurance policy or health benefit plan offered by a health insurer, as defined
14 in 18 V.S.A. § 9402, that is licensed to do business in Vermont, but does
15 not include policies or plans providing coverage for a specified disease or other
16 limited benefit coverage.

17 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on October 1, 2017 and shall apply to all health
19 benefit plans on and after October 1, 2017, on such date as a health insurer
20 offers, issues, or renews the health benefit plan, but in no event later than
21 October 1, 2018.