



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

Nick Thomas

### H.B. 218

129th General Assembly  
(As Passed by the House)

**Reps.** Hottinger, Grossman, Stebelton, Carey, Blair, Buchy, Blessing, Ruhl, Maag, Letson, Hackett, Carney, Luckie, Schuring, Sears, R. Adams, Anielski, Antonio, Boose, Budish, Combs, Derickson, Dovilla, Fedor, Fende, Foley, Gardner, Garland, Gerberry, Goyal, C. Hagan, R. Hagan, Hall, Heard, Johnson, Kozlowski, Lundy, Mallory, McKenney, Milkovich, Murray, Newbold, O'Brien, Okey, Peterson, Pillich, Ramos, Slaby, Uecker, Weddington, Young, Yuko, Batchelder

---

### BILL SUMMARY

- Requires health insurers providing prescription drug benefits to utilize the standard medical reference compendia adopted by the United States Department of Health and Human Services when determining if a drug is safe and effective for treatment of an indication.

---

### CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill revises the list of standard medical reference compendia that health insurers (health insuring corporations and sickness and accident insurers) that provide prescription drug coverage may use when determining whether a drug is safe and effective for treatment of a particular indication. The bill replaces the current statutory list with a reference to the standard compendia adopted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The following table shows the differences between the two lists of acceptable medical reference compendia:

Current law	The bill
American Medical Association Drug Evaluations	American Medical Association Drug Evaluations
American Hospital Formulary Service – Drug Information	American Hospital Formulary Service – Drug Information
Drug Information for the Health Care Provider (United States Pharmacopoeia Convention)	—
—	United States Pharmacopoeia – Drug Information
—	Any other authoritative compendia identified by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services

Continuing law prohibits health insuring corporation and sickness and accident insurance policies, contracts, and agreements that provide coverage for prescription drugs from limiting or excluding coverage for any drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration on the basis that the drug has not been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of the particular indication for which the drug has been prescribed. The prohibition applies if the drug has been recognized as safe and effective for treatment of the indication in one or more specified standard medical reference compendia (revised by the bill) or in medical literature that satisfies specified criteria.<sup>1</sup>

---

## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-04-11
Reported, H. Insurance	06-15-11
Passed House (97-0)	06-22-11

H0218-PH-129.docx/jc

---

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 1751.66(A) and (B) and 3923.60(A) and (B) and, by reference, 42 U.S.C. 1395x(t)(2).

