

Insurance

Sub. H.B. 116

Reps. Brown and Ginter, Becker, Kuhns, Kraus, Lepore-Hagan, Huffman, Barnes, Bishoff, Duffey, Ramos, Anielski, Antonio, Baker, Blessing, Boyce, Boyd, Buchy, Burkley, Celebrezze, Clyde, Conditt, Craig, Derickson, Dever, Dovilla, Driehaus, Fedor, Green, Hackett, Hall, Hambley, Hayes, Henne, Hill, Howse, G. Johnson, Kunze, Landis, Leland, Maag, Manning, McClain, M. O'Brien, Patterson, Pelanda, Reece, Rogers, Romanchuk, Ruhl, Ryan, Schaffer, Scherer, Schuring, Sears, Sheehy, Slaby, Slesnick, K. Smith, R. Smith, Sprague, Stinziano, Strahorn, Sweeney, Sykes, Terhar, Young, Rosenberger

Sens. Tavares, Williams, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Hottinger, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schiavoni, Seitz, Thomas, Uecker, Yuko

Effective date: August 31, 2016

Medication synchronization

- Requires that certain health insurers and the Medicaid program provide coverage for medication synchronization, which allows drugs that are dispensed for chronic diseases or conditions to be obtained on the same date each month.
- Authorizes a pharmacist to dispense a drug in a manner that varies from the drug's prescription to facilitate medication synchronization.

Controlled substances and dangerous drugs

- Expands the circumstances under which a licensing board may suspend a license, certificate, or registration without a hearing for actions related to controlled substances, and extends this authority to actions related to other dangerous drugs.
- Extends to three years (from two) the time that certain records related to controlled substances must be preserved or kept.

Pharmacists

- Requires a pharmacist to exercise professional judgment in determining the amount of a drug to dispense or sell when exercising authority to dispense or sell up to a 30-day supply of a drug without a prescription for a patient on a consistent therapy with a drug that is not a controlled substance.
- Specifies information that must be included in a written consult agreement between a physician and a pharmacist for management of a patient's drug therapy.
- Clarifies that, with regard to certain immunities in existing law for pharmacists and physicians practicing under consult agreements, the pharmacist or physician must

be acting in accordance with the consult agreement regarding the change in a drug for the immunity to apply.

Physician assistants

- Permits certain physician assistants who are licensed but not authorized to exercise physician-delegated prescriptive authority to become so authorized without obtaining a master's degree.
- Modifies continuing pharmacology education requirements for physician assistants.

Certificate of need

- Requires the Director of Health to accept for review one certificate of need application to establish, develop, and construct a new nursing home containing up to 20 beds, if certain conditions are met.

Sub. S.B. 129

Sens. Gardner and Cafaro, Yuko, Skindell, Manning, Brown, Seitz, Williams, Hite, Oelslager, Lehner, Tavares, Eklund, Hughes, Jones, Obhof, Patton, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Thomas, Uecker, Faber, Hackett, Hottinger, Jordan

Reps. Bishoff, DeVitis Henne, Amstutz, Anielski, Antani, Boyd, Brown, Burkley, Conditt, Craig, Cupp, Green, Hambley, Huffman, Lepore-Hagan, McClain, Patterson, Rogers, Schaffer, Sears, R. Smith, Sprague

Effective date: September 13, 2016; certain provisions effective September 15, 2016, and July 1, 2017

- Adopts criteria addressing health insurance prior authorization requirements.
- Imposes prior authorization request response deadlines on health plan issuers.
- Requires health plan issuers to honor prior authorizations for specified time periods.
- Specifies, for health plan issuers not related to the Department of Medicaid, that violations of the act's requirements are considered unfair and deceptive practices under the Insurance Law.
- Delays until July 1, 2017, certain laws regarding the continuum of care that boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services are required to establish.

Am. S.B. 273

Sens. Bacon, Hottinger, Hackett, Coley, Eklund, Hughes, Jones, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Sawyer

Reps. Blessing, Leland, Sweeney

Effective date: April 6, 2017

- Requires insurers to make an annual disclosure to the Superintendent of Insurance on the company's corporate governance policies and practices (CGAD).
- Specifies that a CGAD and all related information is confidential, but authorizes the Superintendent to share confidential information as needed to fulfill the Superintendent's regulatory and legal responsibilities.
- Authorizes the Superintendent to hire consultants as necessary to review a CGAD.
- Authorizes the Superintendent to assess a civil penalty to an insurer that does not submit its CGAD by June 1 of each year.
- Makes the first corporate disclosure report for insurers with a total premium of more than \$5 billion due June 1, 2017, and June 1, 2018, for all other insurers.