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H.B. 597
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Robinson

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SUMMARY

- Requires health benefit plans and the Medicaid program to cover medically necessary epinephrine and glucagon, in all forms, for minors.
- Caps cost sharing for all forms of epinephrine and glucagon prescribed for minors.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Health benefit plans

Coverage

Under the bill, all health benefit plans must cover glucagon and epinephrine, in any form, prescribed to a covered person under age 18 if considered medically necessary by the covered person's medical provider.¹

Cost sharing

The bill also places a cap on cost sharing for health benefit plans covering medically necessary epinephrine or glucagon in any prescribed form for minors, regardless of any deductible, copay, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing requirement that would otherwise apply to the covered person. For epinephrine or glucagon autoinjectors, cost sharing must not exceed \$60 per package of two autoinjectors. For epinephrine or glucagon in any other prescribed form, cost sharing must not exceed \$60 per dose equivalent to the dose contained in two

¹ R.C. 3902.64(B).

autoinjectors. These caps apply regardless of the amount or type of epinephrine or glucagon needed to fill the covered person's prescription.²

The bill specifies that the cap on cost sharing does not prohibit an insurer from reducing a covered person's cost-sharing requirement for those drugs to an amount below the cap.³

Medicaid program

The bill imposes similar coverage requirements under the Medicaid program. Under the bill, the Medicaid program must cover glucagon and epinephrine, in any form, prescribed to a covered person under age 18 if considered medically necessary by the covered person's medical provider.⁴

To the current law requirement that the Department institute cost-sharing requirements for covered drugs under the Medicaid program, the bill adds provisions specific to epinephrine and glucagon. Specifically:

- The Department of Medicaid may not impose a cost-sharing requirement for a prescribed form of epinephrine or glucagon that is greater than the cost-sharing requirement for a different prescribed form of one of those drugs.
- Any cost-sharing requirement for those drugs must comply with the bill's limitations on cost-sharing requirements for those drugs by health benefit plans.⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-15-24

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² R.C. 3902.64(C) and (D).

³ R.C. 3902.64(E).

⁴ R.C. 5164.093(A) and 5167.12.

⁵ R.C. 5162.20 and 5164.093(B).