

HOUSE BILL 730

C3

7lr2539

By: **Delegate Hill (By Request) and Delegates Bromwell, Ebersole, Lam, Sydnor, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2017

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Coverage for Diabetes Test Strips – Prohibition on**
3 **Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, except under certain circumstances, certain insurers,
5 nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing
6 a deductible, copayment, or coinsurance requirement on diabetes test strips; making
7 conforming changes; providing for the application of this Act; providing for a delayed
8 effective date; and generally relating to coverage of diabetes test strips under health
9 insurance.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Insurance
12 Section 15–822
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Insurance**

18 15–822.

19 (a) This section applies to:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) insurers and nonprofit health service plans that provide hospital,
2 medical, or surgical benefits to individuals or groups on an expense-incurred basis under
3 health insurance policies that are issued or delivered in the State; and

4 (2) health maintenance organizations that provide hospital, medical, or
5 surgical benefits to individuals or groups under contracts that are issued or delivered in
6 the State.

7 (b) An entity subject to this section shall provide coverage for all medically
8 appropriate and necessary diabetes equipment, diabetes supplies, and diabetes outpatient
9 self-management training and educational services, including medical nutrition therapy,
10 that the insured's or enrollee's treating physician or other appropriately licensed health
11 care provider, or a physician who specializes in the treatment of diabetes, certifies are
12 necessary for the treatment of:

13 (1) insulin-using diabetes;

14 (2) noninsulin-using diabetes; or

15 (3) elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy.

16 (c) If certified as necessary under subsection (b) of this section, the diabetes
17 outpatient self-management training and educational services, including medical nutrition
18 therapy, to be provided to the insured or enrollee shall be provided through a program
19 supervised by an appropriately licensed, registered, or certified health care provider whose
20 scope of practice includes diabetes education or management.

21 (d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, **AND EXCEPT AS**
22 **PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, the coverage required under this
23 section may be subject to the annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed by
24 an entity subject to this section for similar coverages under the same health insurance
25 policy or contract.

26 (2) **[The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
27 **SUBSECTION, THE** annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed under
28 paragraph (1) of this subsection for the coverage required under this section may not be
29 greater than the annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed by the entity for
30 similar coverages.

31 **(3) (1) ~~AN~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**
32 **PARAGRAPH, AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT IMPOSE A**
33 **DEDUCTIBLE, COPAYMENT, OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENT ON DIABETES TEST**
34 **STRIPS.**

1 **(II) IF AN INSURED OR ENROLLEE IS COVERED UNDER A**
 2 **HIGH-DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLAN, AS DEFINED IN 26 U.S.C. § 223, AN ENTITY**
 3 **SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY SUBJECT DIABETES TEST STRIPS TO THE**
 4 **DEDUCTIBLE REQUIREMENT OF THE HIGH-DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLAN.**

5 (e) An entity subject to this section may not reduce or eliminate coverages in its
 6 health insurance policies or contracts due to the requirements of this section.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all
 8 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or
 9 after ~~October 1, 2017~~ January 1, 2018.

10 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 11 ~~October 1, 2017~~ January 1, 2018.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.