

# HOUSE BILL 820

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By: **Delegate Carr**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2022

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders –**  
3 **Modification of Coverage Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of removing a requirement that rituximab be approved by the federal  
5 Food and Drug Administration to be subject to a requirement on certain insurers,  
6 nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide  
7 coverage for the treatment of certain pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric  
8 disorders; and generally relating to health insurance coverage for pediatric  
9 autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Insurance  
12 Section 15–855  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 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 15–855.

19 (a) This section applies to:

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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 or contracts 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) [(1) Except as provided for in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an] **AN** entity  
8 subject to this section shall provide coverage for medically necessary diagnosis, evaluation,  
9 and treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with  
10 streptococcal infections and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome, including the  
11 use of intravenous immunoglobulin therapy.

12 [(2) This subsection does not require coverage for rituximab unless the  
13 federal Food and Drug Administration approves the use of rituximab for the treatment of  
14 pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections  
15 and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.]

16 (c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the coverage required under  
17 this section may be subject to the annual deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance  
18 requirements imposed by an entity subject to this section for similar coverages under the  
19 same health insurance policy or contract.

20 (2) The annual deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance requirements  
21 imposed under paragraph (1) of this subsection for the coverage required under this section  
22 may not be greater than the annual deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance requirements  
23 imposed by the entity for similar coverages.

24 (d) (1) Except as provided for in paragraph (2) of this subsection, pediatric  
25 autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and  
26 pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome shall be coded as autoimmune  
27 encephalitis for billing and diagnosis purposes.

28 (2) If the American Medical Association and the Centers for Medicare and  
29 Medicaid Services create and assign a specific code for pediatric autoimmune  
30 neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections or pediatric acute onset  
31 neuropsychiatric syndrome for billing and diagnosis purposes, pediatric autoimmune  
32 neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute  
33 onset neuropsychiatric syndrome may be coded as:

34 (i) autoimmune encephalitis;

35 (ii) pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated  
36 with streptococcal infections; or

37 (iii) pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all  
2 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or  
3 after January 1, 2023.

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 January 1, 2023.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.