

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 18-0522.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

**HOUSE BILL 18-1148**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Michaelson Jenet,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Crowder,**

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**House Committees**

Public Health Care & Human Services

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION AGAINST A CARRIER REQUIRING STEP**  
102 **THERAPY FOR COVERED PERSONS WITH STAGE FOUR ADVANCED**  
103 **METASTATIC CANCER.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill prohibits a carrier that issues a health benefit plan that covers treatment for stage four advanced metastatic cancer from requiring a cancer patient to undergo step therapy prior to receiving a drug approved by the United States food and drug administration if use of the approved drug is consistent with best practices for treatment of the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
February 23, 2018

cancer.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-16-145, **amend**  
3 (1) as follows:

4 **10-16-145. Step therapy - prohibited - definitions.** (1) For the  
5 purposes of this section AND SECTION 10-16-145.5, "step therapy" means  
6 a protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or  
7 sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered  
8 person's health care provider recommends for the covered person's  
9 treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended  
10 prescription drug.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 10-16-145.5 as  
12 follows:

13 **10-16-145.5. Step therapy prohibited - stage four advanced**  
14 **metastatic cancer - definition.** (1) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION  
15 10-16-145, A CARRIER THAT PROVIDES COVERAGE UNDER A HEALTH  
16 BENEFIT PLAN FOR THE TREATMENT OF STAGE FOUR ADVANCED  
17 METASTATIC CANCER SHALL NOT LIMIT OR EXCLUDE COVERAGE UNDER  
18 THE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN FOR A DRUG APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES  
19 FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND THAT IS ON THE CARRIER'S  
20 PRESCRIPTION DRUG FORMULARY BY MANDATING THAT A COVERED  
21 PERSON WITH STAGE FOUR ADVANCED METASTATIC CANCER UNDERGO  
22 STEP THERAPY IF THE USE OF THE APPROVED DRUG IS CONSISTENT WITH:

23 (a) THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG  
24 ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED INDICATION OR THE NATIONAL  
25 COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK DRUGS AND BIOLOGICS COMPENDIUM

1 INDICATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF STAGE FOUR ADVANCED METASTATIC  
2 CANCER; OR

3 (b) PEER-REVIEWED MEDICAL LITERATURE.

4 (2) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "STAGE FOUR ADVANCED  
5 METASTATIC CANCER" MEANS CANCER THAT HAS SPREAD FROM THE  
6 PRIMARY OR ORIGINAL SITE OF THE CANCER TO NEARBY TISSUES, LYMPH  
7 NODES, OR OTHER PARTS OF THE BODY.

8 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date -**  
9 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect January 1, 2019; except that, if a  
10 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
11 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
12 within the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general  
13 assembly, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless  
14 approved by the people at the general election to be held in November  
15 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on January 1, 2019, or on the date  
16 of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor, whichever  
17 is later.

18 (2) This act applies to health benefit plans issued, amended, or  
19 renewed on or after the applicable effective date of this act.