

# PLEASE VOTE YES FOR HB22-1290

## Changes To Medicaid For Wheelchair Repairs

Rep. B Titone, Rep. D Ortiz, Sen. R Zenzinger

The bill prohibits the department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Medicaid) from requiring prior authorization (PAR) for any repair of complex rehabilitation technology (CRT). – Powered Wheelchair.

This bill will allow CRT suppliers and professionals to no longer go through the lengthy process of getting a Prior Authorization (PAR) through the Medicaid agency to order parts and repair powered wheelchairs.

It has already been medically determined that the consumer requires the powered wheelchair, so there is no need to make the consumer wait for authorization to get the equipment repaired if it breaks. Too often, consumers have had to wait for months for the CRT suppliers to get authorization to fix the broken wheelchair, then wait longer for the broken part to be ordered and the chair to be fixed.

Delaying the repairs result in consumers: missing work; missing out on life events; being in equipment which is not built or suited for their needs; getting sores and infections from ill fitted equipment; and most importantly impacting their quality of life. Much of this will be eliminated once the PAR process is no longer required.

This bill requires:

- ✓ Rules in place by 10/1/2022 - establishing repair metrics (timelines and quality repairs) for all CRT suppliers and CRT professionals.
- ✓ Medicaid will assess a fine for suppliers for not meeting repair timelines beginning 3 years after the date the repair metric rules (timelines) are established.
- ✓ Medicaid will reimburse labor costs at a rate that is 25% higher for clients residing in rural areas verse urban areas, by 12/1/2024.

For more information, please call CCDC at 303-839-1775



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