



Legislative Council Staff
Research Note

Version: Senate Third
Reading
Date: 4/13/2017

Bill Number

House Bill 17-1186

Sponsors

***Representatives Pettersen and
Landgraf
Senator Coram***

Short Title

***Health Coverage Prescription
Contraceptives Supply***

Research Analyst

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Status

The bill is currently pending before the Senate on third reading. This research note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Background

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, enacted in 2010, requires health insurance plans to cover at least one method from each of the 18 contraceptive methods approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration with no cost sharing to the covered individual. Certain religious employers, such as places of worship, are exempt from the requirement to provide contraceptive coverage. Some health insurance plans that existed prior to the act are "grandfathered" in to the act's requirements and are exempt from providing coverage for contraceptives. Nonprofit religious organizations are not required to contract, arrange, pay, or refer for contraceptive coverage; contraceptive coverage for such organizations is arranged through a third-party administrator.

Dispensing contraceptives. Under current practice, many health insurers reimburse for a one- to three-month supply of prescribed contraceptives. In 2015, Oregon became the first state to require health insurers to cover a 12-month supply of prescribed contraceptives, and Washington D.C. subsequently adopted a similar policy. Similar legislation is currently being considered in Washington and California. Colorado's Medicaid program currently covers a three-month supply of contraceptives that are obtained from a pharmacy, or a six-month supply that is obtained from a provider.

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House Action

House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee (March 9, 2017). At the hearing, representatives from Kaiser Permanente, 9 to 5, the Colorado Chapter of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians, Planned Parenthood, Colorado Children's Campaign, and Colorado Consumer Health Initiative testified in support of the bill.

The committee adopted amendments L.001, and L.002, and referred the bill, as amended, to the House Committee of the Whole. Amendment L.001 makes technical clarifications to align the bill with current law. Amendment L.002 clarifies that the bill applies to contraceptive methods already covered by the terms of an insurance policy.

House second reading (March 16, 2017). The House adopted the House Health, Insurance, and Environment committee report. The House passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

House third reading (March 21, 2017). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Senate Action

Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee (April 5, 2017). At the hearing, representatives from the Colorado Children's Campaign, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians, the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, and four private citizens testified in support of the bill. Two private citizens testified in opposition to the bill.

The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Senate second reading (April 11, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.