

SB 628 -2, -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires health benefit plans to cover treatment for pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS), including but not limited to intravenous immunoglobulin therapy and plasmapheresis. Specifies permitted coding for billing and diagnosis. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Specifies that health plans must cover three monthly immunomodulatory courses of intravenous immunoglobulin therapy when trials of at least two less-intensive treatments were not effective, and upon recommendation of a pediatric subspecialist and the patient's primary care provider. Allows health plans to require that the patient be clinically reevaluated at three-month intervals. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

-3 Incorporates changes proposed in -2. Applies to plans issued, renewed, or extended on or after January 1, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

The National Institute of Mental Health defines pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) as pediatric disorders that often appear in childhood from age 3 to 12. The diagnosis of PANDAS is a clinical diagnosis based on diagnostic criteria by a health care professional. Symptoms may include motor or vocal tics, obsessions, compulsions, or a combination of these. PANDAS is a diagnosis given to children who experience a sudden and dramatic onset or worsening of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and/or tic disorders following a streptococcal infection. Children diagnosed with PANDAS may also experience anxiety, inattention, trouble sleeping, and changes in motor skills, among other symptoms. A distinction between PANDAS and PANS is that children diagnosed with PANS have no association with an underlying streptococcal infection. PANDAS and PANS are described in the medical literature as episodic conditions, and individuals diagnosed with PANDAS or PANS are expected to experience periods of symptom reduction or remission with the disorders. In 2019, the Oregon legislature passed House Bill 2510 creating PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day on October 9 of each year.

Senate Bill 628 requires health benefit plans to cover treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS).