

SB 699 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 1/30, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires health insurance plans to cover prosthetic and orthotic devices determined to be medically necessary by the insured's health care provider.

DETAILED SUMMARY:

- Requires coverage of devices necessary daily living, job-related activities, and physical activities, including running, biking, swimming, and strength training.
- Requires coverage of devices for individuals with limb loss if a benefit would be covered for medical or surgical intervention for a person without limb loss.
- Declares emergency, effective on passage.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3

- Includes limb impairment as a qualifying condition, along with loss and absence.
- Removes requirement that medical necessity determination must be made by the insured's "health care provider."
- Removes emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

Orthopedic and prosthetic devices enable people to participate in education, work, and other physical activities. Orthotic devices include braces and splints. Prosthetic devices include artificial legs and hands.

Senate Bill 699 specifies coverage requirements to include devices necessary for physical activities, and for parity of treatment for individuals with and without limb loss.