

SB 824-1  
(LC 370)  
4/2/25 (EKJ/ps)

Requested by SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
SENATE BILL 824**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “insurance” insert “; amending  
2 ORS 743B.427”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 10 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 743B.427, as amended by section 7, chapter 629,  
5 Oregon Laws 2021, and sections 157 and 157a, chapter 73, Oregon Laws 2024,  
6 is amended to read:

7 “743B.427. (1) As used in this section:

8 “(a) ‘Behavioral health benefits’ means insurance coverage of mental  
9 health treatment and services and substance use disorder treatment and  
10 services.

11 “(b) ‘Carrier’ has the meaning given that term in ORS 743B.005.

12 “(c) ‘Geographic region’ means the geographic area of the state estab-  
13 lished by the Department of Consumer and Business Services for the purpose  
14 of determining geographic average rates, as defined in ORS 743B.005.

15 “(d) ‘Health benefit plan’ has the meaning given that term in ORS  
16 743B.005.

17 “(e) ‘Median maximum allowable reimbursement rate’ means the median  
18 of all maximum allowable reimbursement rates, minus incentive payments,  
19 paid for each billing code for each provider type during a calendar year.

20 “(f) ‘Mental health treatment and services’ means the treatment of or  
21 services provided to address any condition or disorder that falls under any

1 of the diagnostic categories listed in the mental disorders section of the  
2 current edition of the:

3 “(A) International Classification of Disease; or

4 “(B) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

5 “(g) ‘Nonquantitative treatment limitation’ means a limitation that is not  
6 expressed numerically but otherwise limits the scope or duration of behav-  
7 ioral health benefits.

8 “(h) ‘Substance use disorder treatment and services’ means the treatment  
9 of or services provided to address any condition or disorder that falls under  
10 any of the diagnostic categories listed in the substance use section of the  
11 current edition of the:

12 “(A) International Classification of Disease; or

13 “(B) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

14 “(2) Each carrier that offers an individual or group health benefit plan  
15 in this state that provides behavioral health benefits shall conduct an annual  
16 analysis of whether the processes, strategies, specific evidentiary standards  
17 or other factors the carrier used to design, determine applicability of and  
18 apply each nonquantitative treatment limitation to behavioral health bene-  
19 fits within each classification of benefits are comparable to, and are applied  
20 no more stringently than, the processes, strategies, specific evidentiary  
21 standards or other factors the carrier used to design, determine applicability  
22 of and apply each nonquantitative treatment limitation to medical and sur-  
23 gical benefits within the corresponding classification of benefits.

24 “(3) On or before March 1 of each year, all carriers that offer individual  
25 or group health benefit plans in this state that provide behavioral health  
26 benefits shall report to the Department of Consumer and Business Services,  
27 in the form and manner prescribed by the department, the following infor-  
28 mation:

29 “(a) The specific plan or coverage terms or other relevant terms regarding  
30 the nonquantitative treatment limitations and a description of all mental

1 health or substance use disorder and medical or surgical benefits to which  
2 each such term applies in each respective benefits classification.

3 “(b) The factors used to determine that the nonquantitative treatment  
4 limitations will apply to mental health or substance use disorder benefits and  
5 medical or surgical benefits.

6 “(c) The evidentiary standards used for the factors identified in paragraph  
7 (b) of this subsection, when applicable, provided that every factor is defined,  
8 and any other source or evidence relied upon to design and apply the non-  
9 quantitative treatment limitations to mental health or substance use disorder  
10 benefits and medical or surgical benefits.

11 “(d) The comparative analyses demonstrating that the processes, strate-  
12 gies, evidentiary standards and other factors used to apply the nonquantita-  
13 tive treatment limitations to mental health or substance use disorder  
14 benefits, as written and in operation, are comparable to, and are applied no  
15 more stringently than, the processes, strategies, evidentiary standards and  
16 other factors used to apply the nonquantitative treatment limitations to  
17 medical or surgical benefits in the benefits classification.

18 “(e) The specific findings and conclusions reached by the insurer with  
19 respect to the health insurance coverage, including any results of the ana-  
20 lyses described in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection that indicate that  
21 the plan or coverage is or is not in compliance with this section.

22 “(f) **The number of denials of behavioral health benefits and medical**  
23 **and surgical benefits, the percentage of denials that were appealed, the**  
24 **percentage of appeals that upheld the denial and the percentage of**  
25 **appeals that overturned the denial.**

26 “(g) **The percentage of claims for behavioral health benefits and**  
27 **medical and surgical benefits that were paid to in-network providers**  
28 **and the percentage of such claims that were paid to out-of-network**  
29 **providers.**

30 “(h) **The median maximum allowable reimbursement rate for each**

1 **time-based office visit billing code for each behavioral treatment pro-**  
2 **vider type and each medical provider type.**

3 **“(i) The reimbursement rate in each geographic region for a time-**  
4 **based office visit and the percentage of the Medicare rate the re-**  
5 **imbursement rate represents, paid to:**

6 **“(A) Psychiatrists.**

7 **“(B) Psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.**

8 **“(C) Psychologists.**

9 **“(D) Licensed clinical social workers.**

10 **“(E) Licensed professional counselors.**

11 **“(F) Licensed marriage and family therapists.**

12 **“(j) The reimbursement rate in each geographic region for a time-**  
13 **based office visit and the percentage of the Medicare rate the re-**  
14 **imbursement rate represents, paid to:**

15 **“(A) Physicians.**

16 **“(B) Physician associates.**

17 **“(C) Licensed nurse practitioners.**

18 **“(k) The specific findings and conclusions of the carrier under**  
19 **subsection (2) of this section demonstrating compliance with ORS**  
20 **743A.168 and the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health**  
21 **Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-343) and rules**  
22 **adopted thereunder.**

23 **“[(f)] (L) Other data or information the department deems necessary to**  
24 **assess a carrier’s compliance with mental health parity requirements.**

25 **“(4) No later than September 15 of each calendar year, the department**  
26 **shall report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related**  
27 **to mental or behavioral health, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, the**  
28 **information reported under subsection (3) of this section, including the**  
29 **department’s overall comparison of carriers’ coverage of mental health**  
30 **treatment and services and substance use disorder treatment and services to**

1 carriers' coverage of medical or surgical treatments or services.”.

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