

1 H.548

2 Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Acinapura of Brandon,
3 Andrews of Rutland City, Baker of West Rutland, Cheney of
4 Norwich, Courcelle of Rutland City, Dickinson of St. Albans
5 Town, Edwards of Brattleboro, Fagan of Rutland City, French
6 of Shrewsbury, Larocque of Barnet, Lewis of Derby, McAllister
7 of Highgate, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town,
8 Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Donnell of Vernon,
9 Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburg, Smith of Mendon,
10 Stevens of Shoreham, Till of Jericho and Turner of Milton

11 Referred to Committee on

12 Date:

13 Subject: Health; health insurance; bone marrow testing

14 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require health insurers to provide
15 coverage for expenses related to bone marrow testing.

16 An act relating to health insurance coverage for bone marrow testing

17 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

1 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 12 is added to read:

2 Subchapter 12. Bone Marrow Testing

3 § 4100i. BONE MARROW TESTING; COVERAGE REQUIRED

4 (a) A health insurer shall provide coverage for its members for expenses
5 arising from human leukocyte antigen testing, also referred to as
6 histocompatibility locus antigen testing, for A, B, and DR antigens for
7 utilization in bone marrow transplantation.

8 (b) A health insurer shall:

9 (1) Require that the testing provided for in subsection (a) of this section
10 be performed in a facility:

11 (A) accredited by the American Society for Histocompatibility and
12 Immunogenetics, or its successor; and

13 (B) certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act of 1967,
14 42 U.S.C. § 263a, as from time to time amended; and

15 (2) Limit coverage to individuals who, at the time of the testing,
16 complete and sign an informed consent form that also authorizes the results of
17 the test to be used for participation in the National Marrow Donor Program.

18 (c) No health insurer shall impose a co-payment, coinsurance, deductible,
19 or other cost-sharing requirement for human leukocyte antigen testing in
20 excess of 20 percent of the cost of such testing per year.

1 (d) A health insurer may limit coverage for the testing provided for in
2 subsection (a) of this section to a lifetime maximum benefit of one testing.

3 (e) As used in this section, "health insurer" means insurance companies
4 that provide health insurance as defined in subdivision 3301(a)(2) of this title,
5 nonprofit hospital and medical services corporations, and health maintenance
6 organizations. The term does not apply to coverage for specified disease or
7 other limited benefit coverage.

8 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

9 This act shall take effect on October 1, 2010, and shall apply to all health
10 benefit plans on and after October 1, 2010, on such date as a health insurer
11 offers, issues, or renews the health benefit plan, but in no event later than
12 October 1, 2011.