

1 S.221

2 Introduced by Senators Fox and Mullin

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; health insurance; prescription drugs; specialty drugs;
6 cost-sharing

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to restrict the amount of an insured's
8 out-of-pocket expenditures for prescription drugs.

9 An act relating to cost-sharing for prescription drugs

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

11 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4089i is amended to read:

12 § 4089i. PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

13 (a) A health insurance or other health benefit plan offered by a health
14 insurer shall provide coverage for prescription drugs purchased in Canada, and
15 used in Canada or reimported legally or purchased through the I-SaveRx
16 program on the same benefit terms and conditions as prescription drugs
17 purchased in this country. For drugs purchased by mail or through the internet,
18 the plan may require accreditation by the Internet and Mailorder Pharmacy
19 Accreditation Commission (IMPAC/tm) or similar organization.

1 (b) A health insurance or other health benefit plan offered by a health
2 insurer or pharmacy benefit manager shall not include an annual limit on
3 prescription drug benefits.

4 (c) A health insurance or other health benefit plan offered by a health
5 insurer or pharmacy benefit manager shall limit a beneficiary's out-of-pocket
6 expenditures for prescription drugs, including specialty drugs, to no more than
7 \$1,000.00 per individual insured per year and \$2,000.00 per insured family
8 per year.

9 (d) As used in this section:

10 (1) "Health insurer" shall have the same meaning as in 18 V.S.A.
11 § 9402.

12 (2) "Out-of-pocket expenditure" means a co-payment, coinsurance,
13 deductible, or other cost-sharing mechanism.

14 (3) "Pharmacy benefit manager" shall have the same meaning as in
15 section 4089j of this title.

16 (e) The department of banking, insurance, securities, and health care
17 administration shall enforce this section and may adopt rules as necessary to
18 carry out the purposes of this section.

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATES

20 (a) Sec. 1(a), (d), and (e) of this act and this section shall take effect on
21 July 1, 2012.

1 (b) Sec. 1(b) and (c) of this act shall take effect on October 1, 2012 and
2 shall apply to all health insurance plans and health benefit plans on and after
3 October 1, 2012 on such date as a health insurer issues, offers, or renews the
4 plan, but in no event later than October 1, 2013.