

1 S.81

2 Introduced by Senators Mullin and Campbell

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; health insurance; oral anticancer medications

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require health insurers to provide  
7 coverage for orally administered anticancer medications to at least the same  
8 extent that they provide coverage for traditional chemotherapy.

9 An act relating to insurance coverage for oral anticancer medications

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

11 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 11 is added to read:

12 Subchapter 11. Orally Administered Anticancer Medication

13 § 4100g. ORALLY ADMINISTERED ANTICANCER MEDICATION;

14 COVERAGE REQUIRED

15 (a) A health insurer that provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy  
16 treatment shall provide coverage for prescribed, orally administered anticancer  
17 medications used to kill or slow the growth of cancerous cells on a financial  
18 basis that is no less favorable than intravenously administered or injected  
19 anticancer medications covered under the insured's plan.

1       (b) As used in this section, “health insurer” means any insurance company  
2       that provides health insurance as defined in section 3301(a)(2) of this title,  
3       nonprofit hospital and medical service corporations, and health maintenance  
4       organizations. The term does not apply to coverage for specified disease or  
5       other limited benefit coverage.

6       Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

7       This act shall take effect on October 1, 2009 and shall apply to all health  
8       benefit plans on and after October 1, 2009 on such date as a health insurer  
9       offers, issues, or renews the health benefit, but in no event later than October 1,  
10      2010.