

1 H.176

2 Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Acinapura of Brandon,
3 Branagan of Georgia, Cheney of Norwich, Hebert of Vernon,
4 Helm of Fair Haven, Larocque of Barnet, McNeil of Rutland
5 Town, Shaw of Pittsford and Till of Jericho

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Health; health insurance; bone marrow testing

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

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

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

13 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 14 is added to read:

14 Subchapter 14. Bone Marrow Testing

15 § 4100k. BONE MARROW TESTING; COVERAGE REQUIRED

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

20 (b) A health insurer shall:

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

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

5 (B) certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act of 1967,
6 42 U.S.C. § 263a, as from time to time amended; and

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

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

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

15 (e) As used in this section, "health insurer" means an insurance company
16 that provides health insurance as defined in subdivision 3301(a)(2) of this title,
17 a nonprofit hospital and medical services corporation, or a health maintenance
18 organization. The term does not apply to coverage for specified disease or
19 other limited benefit coverage.

1 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on October 1, 2011 and shall apply to all health
3 benefit plans on and after October 1, 2011 on such date as a health insurer
4 offers, issues, or renews the health benefit plan, but in no event later than
5 October 1, 2012.