

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Human Services to which was referred Senate Bill No.
3 43 entitled “An act relating to prohibiting prior authorization requirements for
4 medication-assisted treatment” respectfully reports that it has considered the
5 same and recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be
6 amended as follows:

7 First: By striking out Sec. 1, 8 V.S.A. § 4089b, in its entirety and inserting
8 in lieu thereof a new Sec. 1 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4089b is amended to read:

10 § 4089b. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE, MENTAL HEALTH, AND
11 SUBSTANCE ABUSE USE DISORDER

12 * * *

13 (b) As used in this section:

14 (1) “Health insurance plan” means any health insurance policy or health
15 benefit plan offered by a health insurer, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9402, except
16 a benefit plan providing coverage for a specific disease or other limited benefit
17 coverage. Health insurance plan includes any health benefit plan offered or
18 administered by the State, or any subdivision or instrumentality of the State.

19 * * *

20 (c) A health insurance plan shall provide coverage for treatment of a mental
21 condition and shall:

1 (1) not establish any rate, term, or condition that places a greater burden
2 on an insured for access to treatment for a mental condition than for access to
3 treatment for other health conditions, including no greater co-payment for
4 primary mental health care or services than the co-payment applicable to care
5 or services provided by a primary care provider under an insured’s policy and
6 no greater co-payment for specialty mental health care or services than the co-
7 payment applicable to care or services provided by a specialist provider under
8 an insured’s policy;

9 (2) not exclude from its network or list of authorized providers any
10 licensed mental health or substance abuse provider located within the
11 geographic coverage area of the health benefit plan if the provider is willing to
12 meet the terms and conditions for participation established by the health
13 insurer; ~~and~~

14 (3) make any deductible or out-of-pocket limits required under a health
15 insurance plan comprehensive for coverage of both mental and physical health
16 conditions; and

17 (4) if the plan provides prescription drug coverage, ensure that at least
18 one medication from each drug class approved by the U.S. Food and Drug
19 Administration for the treatment of substance use disorder is available on the
20 lowest cost-sharing tier of the plan’s prescription drug formulary.

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Second: In Sec. 3, 18 V.S.A. § 4754, in the section heading, by striking out
“PROHIBITION” and inserting in lieu thereof “LIMITATION”

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act
relating to limiting prior authorization requirements for medication-assisted
treatment”

(Committee vote: _____)

Representative _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE