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H.728

Representative Whitman of Bennington moves that the bill be amended as follows:

First: By adding a reader assistance heading and new Sec. 3 and 4 to read as follows:

* * * Prior Authorization of Medication-Assisted Treatment Medications for
Medicaid Beneficiaries * * *

Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 1901k is added to read:

§ 1901k. MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT MEDICATIONS

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall provide coverage to Medicaid beneficiaries for medically necessary medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder when prescribed by a health care professional practicing within the scope of the professional’s license and participating in the Medicaid program.

(b) Upon approval of the Drug Utilization Review Board, the Agency shall cover at least one medication in each therapeutic class for methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone as listed on Medicaid’s preferred drug list without requiring prior authorization.

1 Sec. 4. REPORT; DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW BOARD;

2 MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT

3 (a) On or before December 1, 2022, the Drug Utilization Review Board
4 shall review the following and submit its finding and recommendations to the
5 Department of Vermont Health Access:

6 (1) the quantity limits and preferred medications for buprenorphine
7 products;

8 (2) the feasibility and costs associated with adding mono-buprenorphine
9 products as preferred medications; and

10 (3) how other states' Medicaid programs address prior authorization for
11 medication-assisted treatment, including the 60-day deferral of prior
12 authorization implemented by Oregon's Medicaid program.

13 (b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Vermont Health
14 Access shall submit a written report containing the Drug Utilization Review
15 Board's findings and recommendations pursuant to subsection (a) of this
16 section to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate
17 Committee on Health and Welfare.

18 Second: By striking out Sec. 7, reports; prior authorization for medication-
19 assisted treatment; Medicaid, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
20 Sec. 7 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 7. REPORTS; PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICATION-
2 ASSISTED TREATMENT; MEDICAID

3 On or before February 1, 2023, 2024, and 2025, the Department of Vermont
4 Health Access shall report to the House Committees on Health Care and on
5 Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare regarding
6 prior authorization processes for medication-assisted treatment in Vermont’s
7 Medicaid program during the previous calendar year, including:

8 (1) which medications required prior authorization;

9 (2) the reason for initiating prior authorization;

10 (3) how many prior authorization requests the Department received and,
11 of these, how many were approved and denied and the reason for approval or
12 denial; and

13 (4) the average and longest length of time the Department took to
14 process a prior authorization request.