

**As Introduced**

**130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014**

**S. B. No. 364**

**Senator Cafaro**

**Cosponsor: Senator Turner**

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**A B I L L**

To amend section 1739.05 and to enact sections 1  
1751.691 and 3923.851 of the Revised Code to limit 2  
the out-of-pocket cost to an individual covered by 3  
a health plan for drugs used to treat rare 4  
diseases. 5

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 1739.05 be amended and sections 6  
1751.691 and 3923.851 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 7  
follows: 8

**Sec. 1739.05.** (A) A multiple employer welfare arrangement 9  
that is created pursuant to sections 1739.01 to 1739.22 of the 10  
Revised Code and that operates a group self-insurance program may 11  
be established only if any of the following applies: 12

(1) The arrangement has and maintains a minimum enrollment of 13  
three hundred employees of two or more employers. 14

(2) The arrangement has and maintains a minimum enrollment of 15  
three hundred self-employed individuals. 16

(3) The arrangement has and maintains a minimum enrollment of 17  
three hundred employees or self-employed individuals in any 18

combination of divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section. 19

(B) A multiple employer welfare arrangement that is created 20  
pursuant to sections 1739.01 to 1739.22 of the Revised Code and 21  
that operates a group self-insurance program shall comply with all 22  
laws applicable to self-funded programs in this state, including 23  
sections 3901.04, 3901.041, 3901.19 to 3901.26, 3901.38, 3901.381 24  
to 3901.3814, 3901.40, 3901.45, 3901.46, 3902.01 to 3902.14, 25  
3923.24, 3923.282, 3923.30, 3923.301, 3923.38, 3923.581, 3923.63, 26  
3923.80, 3923.85, 3923.851, 3924.031, 3924.032, and 3924.27 of the 27  
Revised Code. 28

(C) A multiple employer welfare arrangement created pursuant 29  
to sections 1739.01 to 1739.22 of the Revised Code shall solicit 30  
enrollments only through agents or solicitors licensed pursuant to 31  
Chapter 3905. of the Revised Code to sell or solicit sickness and 32  
accident insurance. 33

(D) A multiple employer welfare arrangement created pursuant 34  
to sections 1739.01 to 1739.22 of the Revised Code shall provide 35  
benefits only to individuals who are members, employees of 36  
members, or the dependents of members or employees, or are 37  
eligible for continuation of coverage under section 1751.53 or 38  
3923.38 of the Revised Code or under Title X of the "Consolidated 39  
Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985," 100 Stat. 227, 29 40  
U.S.C.A. 1161, as amended. 41

**Sec. 1751.691.** (A) As used in this section: 42

(1) "Cost sharing" has the same meaning as in section 1751.69 43  
of the Revised Code. 44

(2) "Preferred drug formulary" means any list that groups 45  
drugs covered by an individual or group health insuring 46  
corporation policy, contract, or agreement into tiers and for 47  
which a cost-sharing requirement is established for each tier. 48

(3) "Rare disease or condition" has the same meaning as in 21 49  
U.S.C. 360bb(a)(2). 50

(4) "Specialty drug" means a prescription drug that meets all 51  
of the following: 52

(a) The drug is prescribed for a person who has been 53  
diagnosed with either of the following: 54

(i) A physical, behavioral, or developmental condition that 55  
may or may not have any known cure and that is progressive, 56  
debilitating, or fatal if left untreated or under-treated, 57  
including multiple sclerosis, hepatitis C, and rheumatoid 58  
arthritis; 59

(ii) A rare disease or condition. 60

(b) The drug is not stocked at a majority of retail 61  
pharmacies. 62

(c) The drug has at least one of the following 63  
characteristics: 64

(i) It is an oral, injectable, or infusible drug. 65

(ii) It has unique storage or shipment requirements, such as 66  
refrigeration. 67

(iii) Patients receiving the drug require education and 68  
support beyond traditional dispensing activities. 69

(5) "Specialty drug tier" means a tier of a preferred drug 70  
formulary that imposes cost-sharing requirements for specialty 71  
drugs that are higher than for nonspecialty drugs. 72

(B) Notwithstanding section 3901.71 of the Revised Code, an 73  
individual or group health insuring corporation policy, contract, 74  
or agreement providing prescription drug services that is 75  
delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state shall 76  
comply with both of the following: 77

(1) The policy, contract, or agreement shall not impose cost sharing for specialty drugs of more than one hundred fifty dollars for a one-month supply. 78  
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(2)(a) The policy, contract, or agreement shall establish a process by which a covered individual may request that a specialty drug that is not listed on a preferred drug formulary may be covered and subject to cost-sharing requirements as if it were listed on the formulary. 81  
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(b) The denial of such a request shall be treated as an adverse benefit determination, subject to internal appeal and external review under Chapter 3922. of the Revised Code. 86  
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(C) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring a policy, contract, or agreement to do any of the following: 89  
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(1) Provide coverage for any additional drugs not otherwise required by law; 91  
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(2) Implement specific utilization management techniques, such as prior authorization or step therapy; 93  
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(3) Stop the use of any cost-sharing requirements, policies, or procedures that are not otherwise prohibited under this section or any other section of law, including those strategies used to incentivize the use of preventative services, disease management, and low-cost treatment options. 95  
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(D) A policy, contract, or agreement shall not place all drugs in a given class on a specialty tier. 100  
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(E) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as prohibiting a policy, contract, or agreement from requiring that specialty drugs be obtained through a designated pharmacy or other source of such drugs. 102  
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(F) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring a pharmacist to substitute a drug without the consent of the 106  
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prescribing physician. 108

Sec. 3923.851. (A) As used in this section: 109

(1) "Cost sharing" has the same meaning as in section 1751.69 110  
of the Revised Code. 111

(2) "Preferred drug formulary" means any list that groups 112  
drugs covered by an individual or group policy of sickness and 113  
accident insurance or a public employee benefit plan into tiers 114  
and for which a cost-sharing requirement is established for each 115  
tier. 116

(3) "Rare disease or condition" has the same meaning as in 21 117  
U.S.C. 360bb(a)(2). 118

(4) "Specialty drug" means a prescription drug that meets all 119  
of the following: 120

(a) The drug is prescribed for a person who has been 121  
diagnosed with either of the following: 122

(i) A physical, behavioral, or developmental condition that 123  
may or may not have any known cure and that is progressive, 124  
debilitating, or fatal if left untreated or under-treated, 125  
including multiple sclerosis, hepatitis C, and rheumatoid 126  
arthritis; 127

(ii) A rare disease or condition. 128

(b) The drug is not stocked at a majority of retail 129  
pharmacies. 130

(c) The drug has at least one of the following 131  
characteristics: 132

(i) It is an oral, injectable, or infusible drug. 133

(ii) It has unique storage or shipment requirements, such as 134  
refrigeration. 135

(iii) Patients receiving the drug require education and support beyond traditional dispensing activities. 136  
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(B) Notwithstanding section 3901.71 of the Revised Code, an individual or group policy of sickness and accident insurance that is delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state and a public employee benefit plan that is established or modified in this state, that provides prescription drug services shall comply with both of the following: 138  
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(1) The policy or plan shall not impose cost sharing for specialty drugs of more than one hundred fifty dollars for a one-month supply. 144  
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(2)(a) The policy or plan shall establish a process by which a covered individual may request that a specialty drug that is not listed on a preferred drug formulary may be covered and subject to cost-sharing requirements as if it were listed on the formulary. 147  
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(b) The denial of such a request shall be treated as an adverse benefit determination, subject to internal appeal and external review under Chapter 3922. of the Revised Code. 151  
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(C) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring a policy or plan to do any of the following: 154  
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(1) Provide coverage for any additional drugs not otherwise required by law; 156  
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(2) Implement specific utilization management techniques, such as prior authorization or step therapy; 158  
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(3) Stop the use of any cost-sharing requirements, policies, or procedures that are not otherwise prohibited under this section or any other section of law, including those strategies used to incentivize the use of preventative services, disease management, and low-cost treatment options. 160  
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(D) A policy or plan shall not place all drugs in a given 165

class on a specialty tier. 166

(E) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as 167  
prohibiting a policy or plan from requiring that specialty drugs 168  
be obtained through a designated pharmacy or other source of such 169  
drugs. 170

(F) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring 171  
a pharmacist to substitute a drug without the consent of the 172  
prescribing physician. 173

**Section 2.** That existing section 1739.05 of the Revised Code 174  
is hereby repealed. 175

**Section 3.** Sections 1739.05 and 1751.691 of the Revised Code, 176  
as amended or enacted by this act, apply only to policies, 177  
contracts, agreements, and arrangements that are delivered, issued 178  
for delivery, or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 179  
2015. Section 3923.851 of the Revised Code, as enacted by this 180  
act, applies only to policies of sickness and accident insurance 181  
delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state, and 182  
public employee benefit plans that are established or modified in 183  
this state, on or after January 1, 2015. 184