
DIGEST

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HB 529 Original

2017 Regular Session

Broadwater

Abstract: Provides for the creation of a closed pharmacy formulary for the treatment of injured workers in workers' compensation claims.

Proposed law requires that rules shall be promulgated and the closed pharmacy formulary be adopted by July 1, 2018.

Present law created the medical treatment guidelines.

Proposed law retains present law and provides a procedure for the creation of a closed pharmacy formulary subject.

Proposed law requires that in the development of a pharmacy formulary, the director consult with workers' compensation stakeholders for specialized input.

Proposed law requires that in the promulgation of the closed pharmacy formulary, rules shall be promulgated to address legacy claims to ensure the same transition to patients using opioids.

Present law requires that the director update the medical treatment guidelines every two years.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the pharmacy formulary may be updated if an update is recommended by the medical advisory council pursuant to high ranking medical evidence.

Present law provides that if the treatment needed by the injured worker is not sufficiently addressed by the medical treatment guidelines, that the employer may demonstrate by preponderance of the scientific medical evidence that a variance is necessary. Proposed law retains present law and adds to this exception, along with the medical treatment guidelines, that the pharmacy formulary will also be subject to a variance pursuant to the procedures in present law.

(Amends R.S. 23:1203.1(B), (D)(intro. para.), (H), (I), (J)(1), (L), and (M))