

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 939

BY REPRESENTATIVE FISHER

HEALTH/SICKLE CELL ANEM: Provides relative to healthcare services provided to patients with sickle cell disease

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1125.51, relative to coverage for patients diagnosed with sickle cell
3 disease; to provide coverage for digital monitoring of vitals of patients diagnosed
4 with sickle cell disease; to provide at-home care for patients diagnosed with sickle
5 cell disease; to provide for Medicaid coverage; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1125.51 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1125.51. Digital monitoring and at-home care

9 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall make available to persons
10 diagnosed with sickle cell disease and who are eligible for Medicaid benefits under
11 Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq., coverage benefits for
12 digital monitoring of vital signs and twenty-four-hour at-home care.

13 B. Medicaid coverage shall fund all of the following services:

14 (1)(a) Digital monitoring of vital signs.

15 (b) A healthcare professional shall use digital vital signs to determine if a
16 patient with sickle cell disease is experiencing a pain crisis. The healthcare
17 professional may recommend the patient seek healthcare service including but not
18 limited to at-home care.

19 (2)(a) Twenty-four hour at-home care.

20 (b) The patient shall be eligible to receive medical treatment at his home.

1 (c) Services may include hydration and oxygenation at the direction of a
2 healthcare professional.

3 (d) Healthcare professionals may assess a patient during an at-home visit and
4 assist in coordinating follow-up care.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 939 Original

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Fisher

Abstract: Requires the La. Dept. of Health to provide Medicaid coverage for at-home care and digital monitoring of vitals for patients diagnosed with sickle cell disease.

Proposed law mandates Medicaid coverage for digital monitoring of vital signs and at-home health care for individuals diagnosed with sickle cell disease.

Proposed law states that the digital monitoring of vital signs shall be covered by Medicaid and recorded to allow healthcare professionals to determine if a patient is experiencing a pain crisis.

Proposed law states that at-home health care, including hydration and oxygenation, shall be covered by Medicaid.

Proposed law further states that healthcare professionals may assess patients and recommend follow-up care.

(Adds R.S. 40:1125.51)