

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 622

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

INSURANCE/HEALTH: Requires health insurance coverage for histotripsy procedures

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 22:1077.4 and R.S. 40:1081.13, relative to treatments for cancer; to require
3 health insurance coverage for histotripsy procedures when medically necessary for
4 the treatment of liver cancer; to provide for application to Medicaid coverage; to
5 provide for definitions; to provide for applicability relative to coverage plans; to
6 provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 22:1077.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §1077.4. Required coverage for histotripsy procedures

10 A. A health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans in this state that
11 provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits for individuals covered under a
12 respective plan shall provide coverage for histotripsy procedures for the treatment
13 of primary and metastatic tumors in the liver if the person presents with any of the
14 following conditions:

15 (1) Residual disease after first-line treatment of chemotherapy.

16 (2) Metastatic colorectal cancer with liver-dominant or liver-only metastatic
17 disease where a physician has determined surgery is not a good option for the
18 patient.

19 (3) Tumors up to four centimeters or larger if the tumor can be treated in its
20 entirety.

1 (4) Metastatic neuroendocrine tumors with systemic symptoms associated
2 with elevated hormone levels.

3 B. Coverage provided pursuant to this Section may be subject to annual
4 deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments consistent with those established under the
5 health coverage plan.

6 C. For the purposes of this Section, "histotripsy" means a non-invasive
7 procedure that uses high-intensity sound waves to selectively destroy cancer tissue
8 in the liver.

9 Section 2. R.S. 40:1081.13 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §1081.13. Medicaid coverage; histotripsy procedures

11 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall make available to persons who
12 are eligible for Medicaid benefits under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42
13 U.S.C. 1396 et seq., coverage for histotripsy procedures for the treatment of primary
14 and metastatic tumors in the liver if the person presents with any of the following
15 conditions:

16 (1) Residual disease after first-line treatment of chemotherapy.

17 (2) Metastatic colorectal cancer with liver-dominant or liver-only metastatic
18 disease where a physician has determined surgery is not a good option for the
19 patient.

20 (3) Tumors up to four centimeters or larger if the tumor can be treated in its
21 entirety.

22 (4) Metastatic neuroendocrine tumors with systemic symptoms associated
23 with elevated hormone levels.

24 B. A health maintenance organization, health insurance organization, or
25 managed care organization that contracts with the state to provide or coordinate
26 healthcare services to any person eligible for Medicaid coverage pursuant to this
27 Section shall also provide certain documents to the department that address treatment
28 for rare and less common cancers through consultation with subspecialists within
29 respective fields.

1 C. Coverage provided pursuant to this Section may be subject to
2 copayments, deductibles, or other cost-sharing mechanisms.

3 D. For the purposes of this Section, "histotripsy" means a non-invasive
4 procedure that uses high-intensity sound waves to selectively destroy cancer tissue
5 in the liver.

6 Section 3. The provisions of this Act apply to any new policy, contract, or health
7 coverage plan issued on and after January 1, 2026. Any policy, contract, or health coverage
8 plan in effect prior to January 1, 2026, shall convert to conform to the provisions of this Act
9 on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2027.

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 622 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Hilferty

Abstract: Requires health insurance coverage, including Medicaid coverage, for histotripsy procedures to treat cancers of the liver.

Proposed law requires a health insurance issuer offering health coverage plans (plans) in the state of La. that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to cover histotripsy procedures for the treatment of primary and metastatic tumors in the liver if the person presents with the following conditions:

- (1) Residual disease after first-line treatment of chemotherapy.
- (2) Metastatic colorectal cancer with liver-dominant or liver-only metastatic disease where a physician has determined surgery is not a good option for the patient.
- (3) Tumors up to 4 centimeters or larger if the tumor can be treated in its entirety.
- (4) Metastatic neuroendocrine tumors with systemic symptoms associated with elevated hormone levels.

Proposed law applies to coverage through Medicaid plans and provider organizations.

Proposed law authorizes plans and Medicaid provider organizations to apply annual deductibles, coinsurance, copayments, or other established cost-sharing mechanisms.

Proposed law requires a health maintenance organization, health insurance organization, or managed care organization providing or coordinating healthcare services to Medicaid enrollees to also provide certain documents to the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) that address treatment for rare and less common cancers through consultation with certain subspecialists.

Proposed law defines "histotripsy" as a non-invasive procedure that uses high-intensity sound waves to selectively destroy cancer tissue in the liver.

Proposed law applies to any new policy, contract, or plan issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026. Requires any policy, contract, or plan in effect prior to Jan. 1, 2026, to convert to conform to proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than Jan. 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 22:1077.4 and R.S. 40:1081.13)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Insurance to the original bill:

1. Require patients to meet any one of certain conditions for treatment eligibility.
2. Apply proposed law to Medicaid enrollees who meet conditions for treatment and require Medicare provider organizations to provide certain documentation to LDH.
3. Apply proposed law to new policies, contracts, or plans issued on and after Jan. 1, 2026. Require existing policies, contracts, or plans to conform with proposed law by Jan. 1, 2027.