

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 433

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

MEDICAID. Provides for Medicaid coverage of certain medications. (1/1/27)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:460.38, relative to Medicaid coverage of certain medications; to require
3 Medicaid coverage of FDA-approved weight loss medications; to provide for
4 qualifying patients; to provide for coverage restrictions; to provide for an effective
5 date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 46:460.38 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§460.38. Weight loss medications; required coverage**

9 **A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall require each Medicaid**
10 **managed care organization to provide coverage for FDA-approved weight loss**
11 **medications prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider for a Medicaid**
12 **recipient over the age of eighteen who has a body mass index of thirty-five to**
13 **thirty-nine and at least one associated comorbidity, including but not limited to**
14 **type 2 diabetes, prediabetes, hypertension, or cardiovascular disease.**

15 **B. Coverage shall be subject to prior authorization, which shall be**
16 **limited to verification of the patient eligibility criteria provided for in this**
17 **Section.**

1 C. Initial authorization for coverage shall not exceed six months.

2 Continued coverage shall require clinical improvements documented by the
3 patient's healthcare provider.

4 D. The Louisiana Department of Health or any Medicaid managed care
5 organization shall not require step therapy for coverage of weight loss
6 medication pursuant to this Section.

7 E. The Louisiana Department of Health shall implement weight loss
8 coverage in a manner that ensures fiscal sustainability consistent with federal
9 requirements. However, the department shall not impose additional eligibility
10 restrictions beyond the restrictions provided for in this Section.

11 F. Implementation of this Section is subject to the appropriation of funds
12 by the legislature for this purpose.

13 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 433 Engrossed

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Boudreaux

Proposed law requires Medicaid managed care coverage for FDA-approved weight loss medications prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider for a Medicaid recipient over the age of 18 that meets certain criteria.

Proposed law requires prior authorization for coverage but limits prior authorization to verification of patient eligibility.

Proposed law limits initial coverage to six months and provides for certain documentation for continued coverage.

Proposed law prohibits step therapy requirements for coverage of the weight loss medications.

Proposed law prohibits the La. Dept. of Health or the Medicaid managed care organizations from imposing additional restrictions on coverage.

Proposed law provides that implementation of proposed law is subject to appropriation.

Effective January 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 46:460.38)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to
the original bill

1. Changes the eligibility criteria.
2. Makes implementation of proposed law subject to appropriation.