

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 provide Medicaid coverage**
10 **for FDA-approved weight loss medications that are medically necessary and are**
11 **prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider for a Medicaid recipient. The**
12 **coverage criteria for FDA-approved weight loss medications shall be established**
13 **by the department.**

14 **B. Coverage may be subject to prior authorization as determined by the**
15 **department.**

16 **C. The Louisiana Department of Health or any Medicaid managed care**
17 **organization shall not require step therapy for coverage of weight loss**

1 medication pursuant to this Section.

2 D. The Louisiana Department of Health shall implement weight loss
 3 coverage in a manner that ensures fiscal sustainability consistent with federal
 4 requirements.

5 E. Implementation of this Section is subject to the appropriation of funds
 6 by the legislature for this purpose.

7 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 Reengrossed

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Boudreaux

Proposed law requires Medicaid coverage for FDA-approved weight loss medications that are medically necessary and prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider for Medicaid recipients that meet the coverage criteria established by the La. Dept. of Health.

Proposed law allows prior authorization as determined by the department.

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

Proposed law requires the department to implement weight loss coverage in a manner that ensures fiscal sustainability consistent with federal requirements.

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.

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Deletes eligibility criteria and instead allows the department to establish the criteria.
2. Changes prior authorization to be determined by the department.

3. Deletes coverage limitations.
4. Removes the limitations on the department imposing additional restrictions beyond those provided for in proposed law.
5. Makes technical changes.