

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 250

BY SENATOR MCMATH

HEALTH SERVICES. Provides relative to comprehensive weight management services.  
(8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 42:802(A)(9) and to enact R.S. 42:851(W), 855, and 855.1,  
3 relative to comprehensive weight management services; to provide for authority of  
4 the Office of Group Benefits; to provide for a comprehensive weight management  
5 plan; to provide for covered services; to provide relative to premiums; to provide for  
6 notification requirements; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 42:802(A)(9) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 42:851(W),  
9 855, and 855.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §802. Powers and duties; Office of Group Benefits

11 A.

12 \* \* \*

13 (9) To administer or provide for the administration of an Internal Revenue  
14 Service qualified cafeteria plan, **including any weight management plan, if**  
15 **applicable**. The plan shall be developed, negotiated, and implemented by the office  
16 subject to approval of the appropriate standing committees of the legislature having  
17 jurisdiction over review of agency rules of the Office of Group Benefits as

1 designated by R.S. 49:966(B)(21)(c) or the subcommittee on oversight of such  
2 standing committees. The provisions of Chapter 17 of Subtitle III of Title 39 of the  
3 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 shall not apply.

4 \* \* \*

5 §851. Authority for employee benefit programs; payroll deduction for payment of  
6 premiums

7 \* \* \*

8 **W. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any enrollee**  
9 **or dependent enrolled in a comprehensive weight management plan offered by**  
10 **the Office of Group Benefits shall pay one hundred percent of the premium for**  
11 **the weight management plan.**

12 \* \* \*

13 **§855. Office of Group Benefits; comprehensive weight management services**

14 **A. Beginning January 1, 2027, the Office of Group Benefits shall offer**  
15 **enrollment in a comprehensive weight management plan to plan participants**  
16 **for enrollees and dependents. Any such plan shall include the following**  
17 **comprehensive weight management and metabolic health services:**

18 **(1) FDA-approved medications.**

19 **(2) Metabolic health therapies compounded in compliance with 21 U.S.C.**

20 **353a.**

21 **(3) Medical evaluations.**

22 **(4) Prescribing oversight.**

23 **(5) Follow-up care.**

24 **(6) Related support services.**

25 **(7) Longitudinal metabolic health outcome measurements.**

26 **B. Enrollment shall be voluntary and shall not be a condition of**  
27 **enrollment in any health benefit plan.**

28 **C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require any health**  
29 **benefit plan administered by the Office of Group Benefits to alter existing**

1           medical necessity standards, utilization management protocols, or formulary  
 2           requirements.

3           §855.1. Weight loss medications; notification to enrollees

4                   A. No later than October 1, 2026, the Office of Group Benefits shall  
 5                   notify all enrollees of available options for direct purchasing of FDA-approved  
 6                   medications through pharmaceutical manufacturers.

7                   B. The Office of Group Benefits shall provide the notification by posting  
 8                   information on its website and by electronic distribution.

9                   C. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any enrollee or  
 10                  dependent in the Office of Group Benefits plans who purchases a weight loss  
 11                  pharmaceutical product directly through a pharmaceutical manufacturer shall  
 12                  pay one hundred percent of the cost of the medications.

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 250 Reengrossed

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McMath

Present law gives the Office of Group Benefits (OGB) the power to administer or provide for IRS qualified cafeteria plans. Further subjects development and implementation of such plans to the approval of OGB's respective oversight committees or subcommittee on oversight.

Proposed law specifies that IRS qualified cafeteria plans provided for in present law include applicable weight management plans and otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides for rates of payroll deduction for payment of premiums for OGB plans.

Proposed law requires any enrollee or dependent enrolled in a comprehensive weight management plan offered by OGB pay 100% of the premium for the weight management plan.

Proposed law requires OGB to offer enrollment in a comprehensive weight management plan for enrollees and dependents beginning January 1, 2027. Requires any such plan include FDA-approved medications, certain metabolic health therapies compounded in compliance with federal law, medical evaluations, prescribing oversight, follow-up care, related support services, and longitudinal metabolic health outcome measurements.

Proposed law provides that enrollment in the plan is voluntary and not a condition of enrollment in any health benefit plan.

Proposed law specifies that no provision of proposed law shall be construed to require any health benefit plan administered by OGB to alter existing medical necessity standards,

utilization management protocols, or formulary requirements.

Proposed law requires OGB to notify all enrollees of available option for direct purchasing FDA-approved medications through a pharmacy manufacturer by electronic distribution and providing information on its website no later than October 1, 2026.

Proposed law provides that any enrollee or dependent enrolled in OGB purchasing pharmaceutical products directly through a pharmaceutical manufacturer shall pay 100% of the cost of such medications.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 42:802(A)(9); adds R.S. 42:851(W), 855, and 855.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Removes provision authorizing OGB to contract with qualified healthcare providers, pharmacy partners, and program administrators to provide weight management services for plan participants.
2. Specifies that IRS qualified cafeteria plans that OGB is authorized to administer include weight management plans.
3. Requires enrollees and dependents enrolling in such weight management plans to pay 100% of the premium cost.
4. Requires OGB to offer enrollment in comprehensive weight management plans to plan participants beginning January 1, 2027, and requires such plans to include certain aspects of care and pharmaceutical offerings.
5. Provides that enrollment in a weight loss management plan is voluntary and not a condition of enrollment in any health benefit plan.
6. Requires OGB to notify all enrollees of available options for direct purchasing FDA-approved medications through pharmaceutical manufacturers electronically and provide information on its website by October 1, 2026.
7. Requires any enrollee or dependent participating in OGB purchasing pharmaceuticals directly through a pharmaceutical manufacturer to pay 100% the cost of the medication.
8. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Removes certain compounded metabolic health therapies from the services included in the comprehensive weight management plan.