

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1176

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 22:1077.6, relative to integrative care services; to require Medicare Advantage
3 coverage for integrative care services; to provide for definitions; to outline
4 applicability and effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 22:1077.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §1077.6. Required coverage for integrative cancer treatments; Medicare Advantage

8 A. A Medicare Advantage plan offered in this state shall provide coverage
9 for integrative care services when such services are recommended by nationally
10 recognized clinical practice guidelines and are rendered in conjunction with the
11 diagnosis, treatment, or management of a covered medical condition. Coverage
12 pursuant to this Section may be contingent upon annual deductibles, coinsurance,
13 copayments, and prior authorization requirements consistent with those established
14 by the Medicare Advantage plan.

15 B. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms have the following
16 meanings:

1 (1) "Integrative care services" means evidence-based therapeutic modalities
 2 employed alongside conventional medical treatments and endorsed by nationally
 3 recognized clinical practice guidelines. These modalities include but are not limited
 4 to acupuncture, cryotherapy, and scalp cooling systems that are specifically designed
 5 for repeated use and that serve a medical purpose.

6 (2) "Medicare Advantage plan" means any Medicare Part C coordinated care
 7 plan, private fee-for-service plan, or other plan type approved by the Centers for
 8 Medicare and Medicaid Services and offered by a Medicare Advantage organization
 9 licensed pursuant to this Title.

10 C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit a Medicare
 11 Advantage plan from establishing utilization management protocols consistent with
 12 federal law and the terms of the plan, if such protocols do not conflict with the
 13 coverage requirements established in this Section.

14 D. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to mandate coverage by a
 15 Medicare Advantage plan in a manner that conflicts with federal law or regulations
 16 governing Medicare Advantage. The provisions of this Section shall apply only to
 17 the extent permitted under federal law and shall be interpreted consistent with all
 18 applicable federal requirements.

19 E. A Medicare Advantage organization offering a Medicare Advantage plan
 20 in this state shall, to the extent allowed under federal law, provide coverage for
 21 integrative care services in accordance with nationally recognized clinical practice
 22 guidelines when such services are recommended for the diagnosis, treatment, or
 23 management of a covered medical condition.

24 F. Pursuant to this Section, the commissioner of insurance shall do all of the
 25 following:

26 (1) Submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services any
 27 notifications or materials required to implement the provisions of this Section, if
 28 applicable.

29 (2) Promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative
 30 Procedure Act as necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

1 (3) Take any other actions necessary to implement the provisions of this
2 Section to the extent permitted under federal law.

3 Section 2. The provisions of this Act apply to any new policy, contract, or health
4 coverage plan issued on and after January 1, 2027. Any policy, contract, or health coverage
5 plan in effect prior to January 1, 2027, shall convert to conform to the provisions of this Act
6 on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2028.

7 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____