

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 211

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to implement a policy prohibiting Medicaid managed care organizations from requiring an excessive amount of reauthorizations for patients utilizing life-sustaining devices.

WHEREAS, "life-sustaining device" is defined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as a device that is essential to, or that yields information that is essential to, the restoration or continuation of a bodily function important to the continuation of human life; and

WHEREAS, patients prescribed life-sustaining devices are burdened with a number of outside factors that inhibit a patient's access to care, such as travel barriers, geographic disparities, clinician shortages, and appointment availability; and

WHEREAS, an increased frequency of required reauthorizations when a patient's life-sustaining medical needs have not changed places an undue burden on prescribing physicians and patients.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to implement a policy prohibiting Medicaid managed care organizations from requiring an excessive amount of reauthorizations for patients utilizing life-sustaining devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policy should require each Medicaid managed care organization to provide a minimum effective period of one year for a reauthorization to prevent patients using life-saving devices from having any disruption in care or services as well as to prevent overburdening prescribing physicians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE