

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 129

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

INSURERS. Requires health insurers to cover proton therapy for cancer patients. (8/1/25)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 22:1060.18, relative to cancer treatment; to require health insurers to provide coverage for proton therapy treatment for cancer patients; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1060.18 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§1060.18. Required coverage for proton therapy treatment for cancer**

**A. No health insurance issuer shall deny coverage of proton therapy or proton beam therapy for the treatment of cancer as recommended by the American Society for Radiation Oncology practice guidelines.**

**B. The coverage provided in this Section may be subject to annual deductibles, coinsurance, and copayment provisions as are consistent with those established under the health coverage plan.**

**C. The provisions of this Section do not apply to a plan providing coverage for excepted benefits as described in R.S. 22:1061, limited health benefit insurance plans, and short-term policies that have a term of less than twelve months.**

1           Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply to any new policy, contract,  
2           program, or health coverage plan issued on or after January 1, 2026. Any policy, contract,  
3           or health coverage plan in effect prior to January 1, 2026, shall convert to conform to the  
4           provisions of this Act on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2026.

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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)]

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DIGEST

SB 129 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Pressly

Present law requires health insurance plans to provide coverage for certain treatments for cancer.

Proposed law retains present law, and adds proton therapy treatment for cancer as recommended by the American Society for Radiation Oncology practice guidelines to the list of treatments health insurance plans must cover.

Proposed law applies to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on or after January 1, 2026. Any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to January 1, 2026, shall convert to conform to the provisions of proposed law on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2026.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 22:1060.18)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1.       Specify that the treatment must be recommended by the American Society of Radiation Oncology practice guidelines.
2.       Remove prohibition on requiring insured undergo imaging test.
3.       Make technical changes.