

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 1525

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to prior authorization for prescription drug benefits
3 related to the treatment of chronic health conditions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter N, Chapter 1369,
6 Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 SUBCHAPTER N. COVERAGE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FOR CHRONIC HEALTH
8 CONDITIONS [~~AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES AND CERTAIN BLOOD DISORDERS~~]

9 SECTION 2. Section 1369.651, Insurance Code, is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 Sec. 1369.651. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this
12 subchapter:

13 (1) "Chronic health condition" means an illness,
14 injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that is
15 expected to last at least one year and either:

16 (A) requires ongoing medical attention to
17 effectively manage or to prevent an adverse health event; or

18 (B) limits one or more of the following
19 activities of daily living:

20 (i) bathing;

21 (ii) personal hygiene;

22 (iii) eating;

23 (iv) toileting;

24 (v) dressing;

1 (vi) bed mobility; or

2 (vii) walking or locomotion.

3 (2) "Prescription [~~,"prescription]~~ drug" has the
4 meaning assigned by Section 551.003, Occupations Code.

5 SECTION 3. Section 1369.654(a), Insurance Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) A health benefit plan issuer that provides prescription
8 drug benefits may not require an enrollee to receive more than one
9 prior authorization annually of the prescription drug benefit for a
10 prescription drug prescribed to treat a chronic health condition,
11 including an autoimmune disease, hemophilia, neurodegenerative
12 disease, or Von Willebrand disease.

13 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only
14 to a health benefit plan that is delivered, issued for delivery, or
15 renewed on or after January 1, 2026. A health benefit plan
16 delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2026,
17 is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the
18 effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for
19 that purpose.

20 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.