



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB1359

Introduced 2/18/2015, by Sen. Linda Holmes

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

215 ILCS 5/356z.23 new

Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Provides that a health plan that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall ensure that any required copayment or coinsurance applicable to drugs on a specialty tier does not exceed \$100 per month for up to a 30-day supply of any single drug and a beneficiary's annual out-of-pocket expenditures for prescription drugs are limited to no more than fifty percent of the dollar amounts in effect under specified provisions of the federal Patient Protection Affordable Care Act. Provides that a health plan that provides coverage for prescription drugs and uses a tiered formulary shall implement an exceptions process that allows enrollees to request an exception to the tiered cost-sharing structure. Provides that a health plan that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall not place all drugs in a given class on a specialty tier. Effective January 1, 2016.

LRB099 03770 MLM 23783 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by adding
5 Section 356z.23 as follows:

6 (215 ILCS 5/356z.23 new)

7 Sec. 356z.23. Specialty tier prescription coverage.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Coinsurance" means a cost-sharing amount set as a
10 percentage of the total cost of a drug.

11 "Copayment" means a cost-sharing amount set as a dollar
12 value.

13 "Non-preferred drug" means a drug in a tier designed
14 for certain drugs deemed non-preferred and therefore
15 subject to higher cost-sharing amounts than preferred
16 drugs.

17 "Preferred drug" means a drug in a tier designed for
18 certain drugs deemed preferred and therefore subject to
19 lower cost-sharing amounts than non-preferred drugs.

20 "Specialty tier" means a tier of cost sharing that
21 imposes cost-sharing obligations that exceed that amount
22 for non-preferred and preferred drugs.

23 "Tiered formulary" means a formulary that provides

1 coverage for prescription drugs as part of a health plan
2 for which cost sharing, deductibles, or coinsurance
3 obligations are determined by category or tier of
4 prescription drugs and includes at least 2 different tiers.

5 (b) A health plan that provides coverage for prescription
6 drugs shall ensure that:

7 (1) any required copayment or coinsurance applicable
8 to drugs on a specialty tier does not exceed \$100 per month
9 for up to a 30-day supply of any single drug; this limit
10 shall be inclusive of any patient out-of-pocket spending,
11 including payments towards any deductibles, copayments, or
12 coinsurance; further this limit shall be applicable at any
13 point in the benefit design, including before and after any
14 applicable deductible is reached; and

15 (2) a beneficiary's annual out-of-pocket expenditures
16 for prescription drugs are limited to no more than 50% of
17 the dollar amounts in effect under Section 1302(c)(1) of
18 the federal Affordable Care Act for self-only and family
19 coverage, respectively.

20 (c) A health plan that provides coverage for prescription
21 drugs and uses a tiered formulary shall implement an exceptions
22 process that allows enrollees to request an exception to the
23 tiered cost-sharing structure. Under an exception, a
24 non-preferred drug may be covered under the cost sharing
25 applicable for preferred drugs if the prescribing health care
26 provider determines that the preferred drug for treatment of

1 the same condition either would not be as effective for the
2 individual, would have adverse effects for the individual, or
3 both. If an enrollee is denied a cost-sharing exception, the
4 denial shall be considered an adverse event and shall be
5 subject to the health plan's internal review process.

6 (d) A health plan that provides coverage for prescription
7 drugs shall not place all drugs in a given class on a specialty
8 tier.

9 (e) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require a
10 health plan to:

11 (1) provide coverage for any additional drugs not
12 otherwise required by law;

13 (2) implement specific utilization management
14 techniques, such as prior authorization or step therapy; or

15 (3) cease utilization of tiered cost-sharing
16 structures, including those strategies used to incentivize
17 use of preventive services, disease management, and
18 low-cost treatment options.

19 (f) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require a
20 pharmacist to substitute a drug without the consent of the
21 prescribing physician.

22 (g) The Director shall adopt rules outlining the
23 enforcement processes for this Section.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
25 1, 2016.