

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Coyne, Seveney, Sosnowski, Ciccone, and Raptakis

Date Introduced: March 04, 2021

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 27-20.8 of the General Laws entitled "Prescription Drug Benefits" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **27-20.8-3. Price disclosure.**

4 A plan sponsor, health insurance carrier, or pharmacy benefit manager shall not:

5 (1) Prohibit a pharmacist from discussing reimbursement criteria with an
6 individual presenting a prescription;

7 (2) Penalize a pharmacy or pharmacist for disclosing the information described in
8 subsection (1) of this section to an individual presenting a prescription or for selling a more
9 affordable alternative to an individual presenting a prescription; or

10 (3) Require a pharmacy or pharmacist to charge or collect a copayment from an
11 individual presenting a prescription that exceeds the total charges submitted by the network
12 pharmacy.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would bar health insurance plans from prohibiting pharmacists discussing
2 reimbursement criteria with individuals presenting prescriptions. Furthermore, health insurance
3 plans may not penalize a pharmacy or pharmacist from disclosing reimbursement criteria with an
4 individual presenting a prescription or for not charging a copayment from an individual presenting
5 a prescription that exceeds the total charges submitted by the network pharmacy.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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