S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6555

I N S E N A T E

January 26, 2016

Introduced by Sen. ROBACH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to requiring medical insurance carriers to provide certain coverage for service animals

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 3216 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new paragraph 32 to read as follows:

(32) EVERY POLICY WHICH PROVIDES MEDICAL, MAJOR MEDICAL, OR SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE-TYPE COVERAGE MUST PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE ACQUISITION, TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND VETERINARY CARE OF A SERVICE ANIMAL, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 242.00 OF THE PENAL LAW, WHEN SUCH ANIMAL IS DEEMED MEDICALLY NECESSARY BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN.

S 2. Subsection (l) of section 3221 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new paragraph 19 to read as follows:

(19) EVERY POLICY WHICH PROVIDES MEDICAL, MAJOR MEDICAL, OR SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE-TYPE COVERAGE MUST PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE ACQUISITION, TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND VETERINARY CARE OF A SERVICE ANIMAL, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 242.00 OF THE PENAL LAW, WHEN SUCH ANIMAL IS DEEMED MEDICALLY NECESSARY BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN.

S 3. Section 4303 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new subsection (pp) to read as follows:

(PP) EVERY CONTRACT ISSUED BY A HOSPITAL SERVICES CORPORATION OR A HEALTH SERVICES CORPORATION WHICH PROVIDES MEDICAL, MAJOR MEDICAL, OR SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE-TYPE COVERAGE MUST PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE ACQUISITION, TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND VETERINARY CARE OF A SERVICE ANIMAL, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 242.00 OF THE PENAL LAW, WHEN SUCH ANIMAL IS DEEMED MEDICALLY NECESSARY BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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