STATE OF NEW YORK

7905--A

IN SENATE

March 8, 2018

Introduced by Sens. GRIFFO, GOLDEN, HAMILTON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to requiring health insurers to provide coverage of opioid addiction prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder

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 35 to read as follows:

(35)(A) Every policy that provides medical, major medical or similar comprehensive-type coverage, or coverage for prescription drugs must provide coverage, without prior authorization or step therapy, for an initial or renewal prescription for prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder suffered by a covered person with an addiction to opioids.

(B) Coverage provided under this paragraph may be subject to annual deductibles and co-insurance as deemed appropriate by the superintendent and that are consistent with those imposed on other benefits within a given policy.

(C) For the purposes of this paragraph, "prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder" shall mean medications and prescription drugs approved by the food and drug administration for the detoxification or maintenance treatment of substance use disorder.

§ 2. Subsection (l) of section 3221 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new paragraph 7-c to read as follows:

(7-c)(A) Every policy that provides medical, major medical or similar comprehensive-type coverage, or coverage for prescription drugs must provide coverage, without prior authorization or step therapy, for an initial or renewal prescription for prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder suffered by a covered person with an addiction to opioids.

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

LBD14969-04-8

(B) Coverage provided under this paragraph may be subject to annual deductibles and co-insurance as deemed appropriate by the superintendent and that are consistent with those imposed on other benefits within a given policy.

(C) For the purposes of this paragraph, "prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder" shall mean medications and prescription drugs approved by the food and drug administration for the detoxification or maintenance treatment of substance use disorder.

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

(l-3) Every contract that provides medical, major medical or similar comprehensive-type coverage, or coverage for prescription drugs must provide coverage, without prior authorization or step therapy, for an initial or renewal prescription for prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder suffered by a covered person with an addiction to opioids. Coverage provided under this subsection may be subject to annual deductibles and co-insurance as deemed appropriate by the superintendent and that are consistent with those imposed on other benefits within a given contract. For the purposes of this subsection, "prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse disorder" shall mean medications and prescription drugs approved by the food and drug administration for the detoxification or maintenance treatment of substance use disorder.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.