

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5586

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

April 18, 2017

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

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, the public health law, and the education law, in relation to prescription drugs

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 3216 of the insurance law is  
2 amended by adding two new paragraphs 28-a and 28-b to read as follows:

3 (28-a) (A) Any policy that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
4 and also provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment shall  
5 permit each insured to fill any covered prescription under paragraph  
6 twelve-a of this subsection that may be obtained at a network partic-  
7 ipating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the insured's  
8 option, from a network participating oncologist providing services in  
9 accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law.  
10 Any policy providing such coverage shall not impose a co-payment fee or  
11 other condition on any insured who elects to purchase oral anticancer  
12 medications from a prescribing network participating oncologist which is  
13 not also imposed on insureds electing to purchase drugs from a network  
14 participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy. The policy shall  
15 not exclude from network participation any oncologist dispensing or  
16 involved in the provision of pharmacy services in accordance with  
17 section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law due to their  
18 dispensing or the provision of said pharmacy services. This paragraph  
19 shall also apply to any pharmacy benefits manager as defined in section  
20 two hundred eighty-a of the public health law.

21 (B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "oncologist" shall mean a  
22 licensed or registered physician who is board certified or board eligi-  
23 ble in medical oncology, radiation oncology, hematology, or another  
24 oncology specialty recognized by the American board of medical special-

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

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1 ties, or a surgeon who consults predominantly with patients who have a  
2 cancer diagnosis.

3 (28-b) (A) Any policy that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
4 and also provides coverage for human immunodeficiency virus infection  
5 and acquired immune deficiency syndrome treatment shall permit each  
6 insured to fill any covered prescription that may be obtained at a  
7 network participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the  
8 insured's option, from a network participating physician providing  
9 services in accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the  
10 education law. Any policy providing such coverage shall not impose a  
11 co-payment fee or other condition on any insured who elects to purchase  
12 antiretroviral medications from a prescribing network participating  
13 physician which is not also imposed on insureds electing to purchase  
14 drugs from a network participating mail order or other non-retail phar-  
15 macy. The policy shall not exclude from network participation any physi-  
16 cian dispensing or involved in the provision of pharmacy services in  
17 accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law  
18 due to their dispensing or the provision of said pharmacy services. This  
19 paragraph shall also apply to any pharmacy benefits manager as defined  
20 in section two hundred eighty-a of the public health law.

21 (B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "antiretroviral medication"  
22 shall mean a drug used in the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus  
23 infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

24 § 2. Subsection (1) of section 3221 of the insurance law is amended by  
25 adding two new paragraphs 18-a and 18-b to read as follows:

26 (18-a) (A) Any policy that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
27 and also provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment shall  
28 permit each insured to fill any covered prescription under paragraph  
29 twelve-a of this subsection that may be obtained at a network partic-  
30 ipating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the insured's  
31 option, from a network participating oncologist providing services in  
32 accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law.  
33 Any policy providing such coverage shall not impose a co-payment fee or  
34 other condition on any insured who elects to purchase oral anticancer  
35 medications from a prescribing network participating oncologist which is  
36 not also imposed on insureds electing to purchase drugs from a network  
37 participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy. The policy shall  
38 not exclude from network participation any oncologist dispensing or  
39 involved in the provision of pharmacy services in accordance with  
40 section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law due to their  
41 dispensing or the provision of said pharmacy services. This paragraph  
42 shall also apply to any pharmacy benefits manager as defined in section  
43 two hundred eighty-a of the public health law.

44 (B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "oncologist" shall mean a  
45 licensed or registered physician who is board certified or board eligi-  
46 ble in medical oncology, radiation oncology, hematology, or another  
47 oncology specialty recognized by the American board of medical special-  
48 ties, or a surgeon who consults predominantly with patients who have a  
49 cancer diagnosis.

50 (18-b) (A) Any policy that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
51 and also provides coverage for human immunodeficiency virus infection  
52 and acquired immune deficiency syndrome treatment shall permit each  
53 insured to fill any covered prescription that may be obtained at a  
54 network participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the  
55 insured's option, from a network participating physician providing  
56 services in accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the

1 education law. Any policy providing such coverage shall not impose a  
2 co-payment fee or other condition on any insured who elects to purchase  
3 antiretroviral medications from a prescribing network participating  
4 physician which is not also imposed on insureds electing to purchase  
5 drugs from a network participating mail order or other non-retail phar-  
6 macy. The policy or a pharmacy benefit manager, as defined in section  
7 two hundred eighty-a of the public health law, shall not exclude from  
8 network participation any physician dispensing or involved in the  
9 provision of pharmacy services in accordance with section sixty-eight  
10 hundred seven of the education law due to their dispensing or the  
11 provision of said pharmacy services. This paragraph shall also apply to  
12 any pharmacy benefits manager as defined in section two hundred eighty-a  
13 of the public health law.

14 (B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "antiretroviral medication"  
15 shall mean a drug used in the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus  
16 infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

17 § 3. Section 4303 of the insurance law is amended by adding two new  
18 subsections (kk-1) and (kk-2) to read as follows:

19 (kk-1) (A) Any contract that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
20 and also provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment shall  
21 permit each insured to fill any covered prescription under subsection  
22 (q-1) of this section that may be obtained at a network participating  
23 mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the insured's option, from a  
24 network participating oncologist providing services in accordance with  
25 section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law. Any policy  
26 providing such coverage shall not impose a co-payment fee or other  
27 condition on any insured who elects to purchase oral anticancer medica-  
28 tions from a prescribing network participating oncologist which is not  
29 also imposed on insureds electing to purchase drugs from a network  
30 participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy. The policy shall  
31 not exclude from network participation any oncologist dispensing or  
32 involved in the provision of pharmacy services in accordance with  
33 section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law due to their  
34 dispensing or the provision of said pharmacy services. This paragraph  
35 shall also apply to any pharmacy benefits manager as defined in section  
36 two hundred eighty-a of the public health law.

37 (B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "oncologist" shall mean a  
38 licensed or registered physician who is board certified or board eligi-  
39 ble in medical oncology, radiation oncology, hematology, or another  
40 oncology specialty recognized by the American board of medical special-  
41 ties, or a surgeon who consults predominantly with patients who have a  
42 cancer diagnosis.

43 (kk-2) (A) Any contract that provides coverage for prescription drugs  
44 and also provides coverage for human immunodeficiency virus infection  
45 and acquired immune deficiency syndrome treatment shall permit each  
46 insured to fill any covered prescription that may be obtained at a  
47 network participating mail order or other non-retail pharmacy, at the  
48 insured's option, from a network participating physician providing  
49 services in accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the  
50 education law. Any contract providing such coverage shall not impose a  
51 co-payment fee or other condition on any insured who elects to purchase  
52 antiretroviral medications from a prescribing network participating  
53 physician which is not also imposed on insureds electing to purchase  
54 drugs from a network participating mail order or other non-retail phar-  
55 macy. The contract or a pharmacy benefit manager, as defined in section  
56 two hundred eighty-a of the public health law, shall not exclude from

network participation any physician dispensing or involved in the provision of pharmacy services in accordance with section sixty-eight hundred seven of the education law due to their dispensing or the provision of said pharmacy services. This paragraph shall also apply to any pharmacy benefits manager as defined in section two hundred eighty-a of the public health law.

(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "antiretroviral medication" shall mean a drug used in the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

§ 4. Subdivisions 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 of section 238 of the public health law are renumbered subdivisions 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 and two new subdivisions 11 and 12 are added to read as follows:

11. "Oncologist" shall mean a licensed or registered physician who is board certified or board eligible in medical oncology, radiation oncology, hematology, or another oncology specialty recognized by the American board of medical specialties, or a surgeon who consults predominantly with patients who have a cancer diagnosis.

12. "Oncology group practice" shall mean a group practice in which each practitioner who is a member of the group is an oncologist.

§ 5. Subdivision 4 of section 238-a of the public health law, as added by chapter 803 of the laws of 1992, paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) as amended by chapter 591 of the laws of 2000, and paragraph (d) as amended by chapter 443 of the laws of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

4. An ownership interest or an investment interest shall not be subject to subdivision one of this section if:

(a) the health care provider authorized to provide clinical laboratory services, pharmacy services, radiation therapy services, physical therapy services or x-ray or imaging services is in a rural area and the referring practitioner or the patient is in such rural area; or

(b) the clinical laboratory services, pharmacy services, radiation therapy services, physical therapy services or x-ray or imaging services are provided by a general hospital, the referring practitioner is authorized to perform services at such general hospital and the ownership or investment interest is in the general hospital itself and not merely in a subdivision thereof; or

(c) the clinical laboratory services, pharmacy services, radiation therapy services, physical therapy services or x-ray or imaging services are provided by an ambulatory surgical center issued an operating certificate pursuant to article twenty-eight of this chapter in conjunction with a surgical procedure performed by the referring practitioner at the ambulatory surgical center; or

(d) the pharmacy services are provided to a cancer patient of an oncology group practice by a pharmacy licensed under subdivision two of section sixty-eight hundred eight of the education law, the ownership or investment interest of which is held exclusively by practitioners of the oncology group practice, of which the prescribing practitioner is a member; or

(e) the pharmacy services are provided to a human immunodeficiency virus infection or acquired immune deficiency syndrome patient of a group practice by a pharmacy licensed under subdivision two of section sixty-eight hundred eight of the education law, the ownership or investment interest of which is held exclusively by practitioners of the group practice, of which the prescribing practitioner is a member;

~~[(d)]~~ (f) and if each practitioner who is an interested investor in a health care provider within a category specified in paragraph (a), (b) ~~[or]~~, (c), (d) or (e) of this subdivision and who makes a referral of a

1 patient to such health care provider discloses to the patient, in a  
2 brief and reasonable form and manner specified in regulations proposed  
3 by the commissioner after consultation with representatives of consumer  
4 and physician organizations and adopted by the public health council,  
5 subject to approval by the commissioner, the practitioner's, or family  
6 member's ownership interest or investment interest in the health care  
7 provider and the patient's right to utilize a specifically identified  
8 alternative health care provider if any such alternative is reasonably  
9 available.

10 § 6. Section 6509-a of the education law, as amended by chapter 555 of  
11 the laws of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

12 § 6509-a. Additional definition of professional misconduct; limited  
13 application. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this article  
14 or of any other provision of law to the contrary, the license or regis-  
15 tration of a person subject to the provisions of articles one hundred  
16 thirty-two, one hundred thirty-three, one hundred thirty-six, one  
17 hundred thirty-seven, one hundred thirty-nine, one hundred forty-one,  
18 one hundred forty-three, one hundred forty-four, one hundred fifty-six,  
19 one hundred fifty-nine and one hundred sixty-four of this chapter may be  
20 revoked, suspended or annulled or such person may be subject to any  
21 other penalty provided in section sixty-five hundred eleven of this  
22 article in accordance with the provisions and procedure of this article  
23 for the following:

24 That any person subject to the above enumerated articles, has directly  
25 or indirectly requested, received or participated in the division,  
26 transference, assignment, rebate, splitting or refunding of a fee for,  
27 or has directly requested, received or profited by means of a credit or  
28 other valuable consideration as a commission, discount or gratuity in  
29 connection with the furnishing of professional care, or service, includ-  
30 ing x-ray examination and treatment, or for or in connection with the  
31 sale, rental, supplying or furnishing of clinical laboratory services or  
32 supplies, x-ray laboratory services or supplies, inhalation therapy  
33 service or equipment, ambulance service, hospital or medical supplies,  
34 physiotherapy or other therapeutic service or equipment, artificial  
35 limbs, teeth or eyes, orthopedic or surgical appliances or supplies,  
36 optical appliances, supplies or equipment, devices for aid of hearing,  
37 drugs, medication or medical supplies or any other goods, services or  
38 supplies prescribed for medical diagnosis, care or treatment under this  
39 chapter, except payment, not to exceed thirty-three and one-third per  
40 centum of any fee received for x-ray examination, diagnosis or treat-  
41 ment, to any hospital furnishing facilities for such examination, diag-  
42 nosis or treatment. Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit  
43 such persons from practicing as partners, in groups or as a professional  
44 corporation or as a university faculty practice corporation nor from  
45 pooling fees and moneys received, either by the partnerships, profes-  
46 sional corporations, university faculty practice corporations or groups  
47 by the individual members thereof, for professional services furnished  
48 by any individual professional member, or employee of such partnership,  
49 corporation or group, nor shall the professionals constituting the part-  
50 nerships, corporations or groups be prohibited from sharing, dividing or  
51 apportioning the fees and moneys received by them or by the partnership,  
52 corporation or group in accordance with a partnership or other agree-  
53 ment; provided that no such practice as partners, corporations or in  
54 groups or pooling of fees or moneys received or shared, division or  
55 apportionment of fees shall be permitted with respect to care and treat-  
56 ment under the workers' compensation law except as expressly authorized

1 by the workers' compensation law. Nothing contained in this chapter  
2 shall prohibit a medical or dental expense indemnity corporation pursu-  
3 ant to its contract with the subscriber from prorationing a medical or  
4 dental expense indemnity allowance among two or more professionals in  
5 proportion to the services rendered by each such professional at the  
6 request of the subscriber, provided that prior to payment thereof such  
7 professionals shall submit both to the medical or dental expense indem-  
8 nity corporation and to the subscriber statements itemizing the services  
9 rendered by each such professional and the charges therefor. Nothing in  
10 this section shall prohibit any person subject to the above enumerated  
11 articles from participating in an arrangement permitted in section two  
12 hundred thirty-eight-a of the public health law.

13 § 7. Subdivision 18 of section 6530 of the education law, as added by  
14 chapter 606 of the laws of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

15 18. Directly or indirectly offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving  
16 or agreeing to receive, any fee or other consideration to or from a  
17 third party for the referral of a patient or in connection with the  
18 performance of professional services[+]. This prohibition shall not  
19 include arrangements permitted in section two hundred thirty-eight-a of  
20 the public health law;

21 § 8. Section 6802 of the education law is amended by adding three new  
22 subdivisions 27, 28, and 29 to read as follows:

23 27. "Oncologist" shall mean a licensed or registered physician who is  
24 board certified or board eligible in medical oncology, radiation oncology,  
25 hematology, or another oncology specialty recognized by the American  
26 board of medical specialties, or a surgeon who consults predominantly  
27 with patients who have a cancer diagnosis.

28 28. "Oncology group practice" shall mean a group practice in which  
29 each practitioner who is a member of the group is an oncologist.

30 29. "Group practice" shall mean a group of two or more practitioners  
31 organized as a partnership, professional corporation, foundation, not-  
32 for-profit corporation, faculty practice plan or similar association.

33 § 9. Section 6807 of the education law, as amended by chapter 881 of  
34 the laws of 1972, the section heading as amended and subdivision 3 as  
35 added by chapter 573 of the laws of 1999, subdivision 1 as designated  
36 and subdivision 2 as added by chapter 18 of the laws of 1990, paragraph  
37 b of subdivision 1 and paragraph a of subdivision 2 as amended by chap-  
38 ter 538 of the laws of 2001, is amended to read as follows:

39 § 6807. Exempt persons; special provisions. 1. This article shall not  
40 be construed to affect or prevent:

41 a. Unlicensed assistants from being employed in licensed pharmacies  
42 for purposes other than the practice of pharmacy;

43 b. Any physician, dentist, veterinarian or other licensed health care  
44 provider legally authorized to prescribe drugs under this title [~~who is~~  
45 ~~not the owner of a pharmacy or who is not in the employ of such owner~~],  
46 from supplying his patients with such drugs as the physician, dentist,  
47 veterinarian or other licensed health care provider legally authorized  
48 to prescribe drugs under this title deems proper in connection with his  
49 practice, provided, however, that all such drugs shall be dispensed in a  
50 container labeled with the name and address of the dispenser and  
51 patient, directions for use, and date of delivery, and in addition, such  
52 drug shall bear a label containing the proprietary or brand name of the  
53 drug and, if applicable, the strength of the contents, unless the person  
54 issuing the prescription specifically states on the prescription in his  
55 own handwriting, that the name of the drug and the strength thereof  
56 should not appear on the label; provided further that if such drugs are



1 controlled substances, they shall be dispensed pursuant to the require-  
2 ments of article thirty-three of the public health law;

3 c. Any merchant from selling proprietary medicines, except those which  
4 are poisonous, deleterious or habit forming, or materials and devices  
5 specifically exempted by regulations of the department or by the public  
6 health law;

7 d. Any personnel in an institution of higher learning from using pres-  
8 cription-required drugs on the premises for authorized research, exper-  
9 iments or instruction, in accordance with the department's regulations  
10 and, if such drugs are controlled substances, in accordance with title  
11 III of article thirty-three of the public health law; or

12 e. The necessary and ordinary activities of manufacturers and whole-  
13 salers, subject to the provisions of article thirty-three of the public  
14 health law.

15 2. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph b of subdivision  
16 one of this section, ~~[no] a prescriber [who is not the owner of a phar-~~  
17 ~~macy or who is not in the employ of such owner, may]~~ shall not dispense  
18 more than a seventy-two hour supply of drugs, except for:

19 (1) persons practicing in hospitals as defined in section twenty-eight  
20 hundred one of the public health law;

21 (2) the dispensing of drugs at no charge to their patients;

22 (3) persons whose practices are situated ten miles or more from a  
23 registered pharmacy;

24 (4) the dispensing of drugs in a clinic, infirmary or health service  
25 that is operated by or affiliated with a post-secondary institution;

26 (5) persons licensed pursuant to article one hundred thirty-five of  
27 this title;

28 (6) the dispensing of drugs in a medical emergency as defined in  
29 subdivision six of section sixty-eight hundred ten of this article;

30 (7) the dispensing of drugs that are diluted, reconstituted or  
31 compounded by a prescriber;

32 (8) the dispensing of allergenic extracts; or

33 (9) the dispensing of drugs pursuant to an oncological or AIDS proto-  
34 col.

35 b. This subdivision shall not be construed to affect or prevent:

36 (1) An oncology group practice from holding an ownership or investment  
37 interest in a pharmacy licensed under subdivision two of section sixty-  
38 eight hundred eight of this article, the ownership or investment inter-  
39 est of which is held exclusively by practitioners of the oncology group  
40 practice, to dispense drugs, pursuant to an oncological protocol, to a  
41 patient of the oncology group practice; or

42 (2) A group practice from holding an ownership or investment interest  
43 in a pharmacy licensed under subdivision two of section sixty-eight  
44 hundred eight of this article, the ownership or investment interest of  
45 which is held exclusively by practitioners of the group practice, to  
46 dispense drugs, pursuant to a human immunodeficiency virus infection and  
47 acquired immune deficiency syndrome protocol, to a patient of the group  
48 practice.

49 c. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of health,  
50 may promulgate regulations to implement this subdivision and may, by  
51 regulation, establish additional renewable exemptions for a period not  
52 to exceed one year from the provisions of paragraph a of this subdivi-  
53 sion.

54 3. A pharmacist may dispense drugs and devices to a registered profes-  
55 sional nurse, and a registered professional nurse may possess and admin-  
56 ister, drugs and devices, pursuant to a non-patient specific regimen

1 prescribed or ordered by a licensed physician or certified nurse practi-  
2 tioner, pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner and the  
3 public health law.  
4 § 10. This act shall take effect immediately.