STATE OF NEW YORK

354

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN, GALEF -- read once and referred to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to providing reimbursement for certain corrective lenses used to correct color vision deficiency

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

Section 1. Section 3221 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new subsection (t) to read as follows:

(t) (1) Every group health insurance policy offered in the large group market that is issued, amended, or renewed in this state shall provide coverage for corrective lenses used to correct the sight of individuals medically diagnosed with color vision deficiency.

(2) An insured person shall be entitled to reimbursement of up to four hundred dollars every thirty-six months for expenses related to the purchase of up to one pair of corrective lenses.

(3) The insured person may choose corrective lenses exceeding the amount of coverage required by this section and shall be liable for the difference in cost. Reimbursement shall be provided according to the respective principles and policies of the health insurance plan and may include such policy provisions as deductibles, coinsurance, allowable charge limitations, and coordination of benefits.

(4) For the purposes of this subsection, "corrective lenses" shall mean any lens, including contact lenses, glasses or spectacles, worn in front of the eye to correct the sight of individuals medically diagnosed with color vision deficiency.

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

(ss) (1) A group contract issued, amended, or renewed pursuant to this section offered in the large group market shall provide coverage for

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

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corrective lenses used to correct the sight of individuals medically diagnosed with color vision deficiency.

(2) An insured person shall be entitled to reimbursement of up to four hundred dollars every thirty-six months for expenses related to the purchase of up to one pair of corrective lenses.

(3) The insured person may choose corrective lenses exceeding the amount of coverage required by this section and shall be liable for the difference in cost. Reimbursement shall be provided according to the respective principles and policies of the health insurance plan and may include such policy provisions as deductibles, coinsurance, allowable charge limitations, and coordination of benefits.

(4) For the purposes of this subsection, "corrective lenses" shall mean any lens, including contact lenses, glasses or spectacles, worn in front of the eye to correct the sight of individuals medically diagnosed with color vision deficiency.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.