

2022 -- H 7631

LC004960

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Ajello, Cassar, Alzate, Donovan, Barros, and Williams

Date Introduced: March 02, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 27-18-57 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-18 entitled "Accident  
2 and Sickness Insurance Policies" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **27-18-57. F.D.A. approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices.**

4 (a) Every individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy issued pursuant to  
5 this title that ~~provides prescription coverage and~~ is delivered, issued for delivery, ~~or~~ renewed,  
6 amended or effective in this state on or after January 1, 2023 in this state shall provide coverage  
7 for ~~F.D.A. approved contraceptive drugs and devices requiring a prescription~~ all of the following  
8 services and contraceptive methods. Provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to  
9 mandate or require coverage for the prescription drug RU 486.

10 (1) All FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products. The following  
11 applies to this coverage:

12 (i) If there is a therapeutic equivalent of an FDA-approved contraceptive drug, device, or  
13 product, the contract must include either the original FDA-approved contraceptive drug device, or  
14 product or at least one of its therapeutic equivalents. "Therapeutic equivalent" shall have the same  
15 definition as that set forth by the FDA.

16 (ii) If the covered therapeutic equivalent versions of a drug, device, or product are not  
17 available or are deemed medically inadvisable, a group or blanket policy shall provide coverage  
18 for an alternate therapeutic equivalent version of the contraceptive drug, device, or product, based  
19 on the determination of the health care provider, without cost-sharing;

1 (iii) Coverage required by this section must include all over-the-counter contraceptive  
2 drugs, devices and products approved by the FDA when prescribed by a licensed provider,  
3 excluding male condoms;

4 (2) Voluntary sterilization procedures.

5 (3) Patient education and counseling on contraception; and

6 (4) Follow-up services related to the drugs, devices, products, and procedures covered  
7 under this section, including, but not limited to, management of side effects, counseling for  
8 continued adherence, and device insertion and removal.

9 (b) A group or blanket policy subject to this section shall not impose a deductible,  
10 coinsurance, copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement on the coverage provided pursuant  
11 to this section. For a qualifying high-deductible health plan for a health savings account, the carrier  
12 shall establish the plan's cost-sharing for the coverage provided pursuant to this section at the  
13 minimum level necessary to preserve the enrollee's ability to claim tax-exempt contributions and  
14 withdrawals from his or her health savings account under 26 U.S.C. § 223.

15 (c) Except as otherwise authorized under this subsection, a group or blanket policy shall  
16 not impose any restrictions or delays on the coverage required under this section.

17 (d) Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for an enrollee's covered  
18 spouse or domestic partner and covered non-spouse dependents.

19 ~~(b)~~(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any insurance company may  
20 issue to a religious employer an individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy that  
21 excludes coverage for prescription contraceptive methods that are contrary to the religious  
22 employer's bona fide religious tenets.

23 ~~(e)~~(f) As used in this section, "religious employer" means an employer that is a "church or  
24 a qualified church-controlled organization" as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 3121.

25 ~~(d)~~(g) This section does not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for: (1) Hospital  
26 confinement indemnity; (2) Disability income; (3) Accident only; (4) Long-term care; (5) Medicare  
27 supplement; (6) Limited benefit health; (7) Specified disease indemnity; (8) Sickness or bodily  
28 injury or death by accident or both; and (9) Other limited-benefit policies.

29 ~~(e)~~(h) Every religious employer that invokes the exemption provided under this section  
30 shall provide written notice to prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan, listing the  
31 contraceptive healthcare services the employer refuses to cover for religious reasons.

32 ~~(e)~~(i) Beginning on the first day of each plan year after April 1, 2019, every health insurance  
33 issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage that covers prescription contraception  
34 shall not restrict reimbursement for dispensing a covered prescription contraceptive up to three

1 hundred sixty-five (365) days at a time.

2 (j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to exclude coverage for contraceptive drugs,  
3 devices, or products for reasons other than contraceptive purposes, such as decreasing the risk of  
4 ovarian cancer or eliminating symptoms of menopause, or for contraception that is necessary to  
5 preserve the life or health of an enrollee.

6 SECTION 2. Section 27-19-48 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-19 entitled "Nonprofit  
7 Hospital Service Corporations" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **27-19-48. F.D.A. approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices.**

9 (a) Every individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy issued pursuant to  
10 this title that ~~provides prescription coverage and~~ is delivered, ~~or~~ renewed, amended or effective in  
11 this state on or after January 1, 2023 in this state shall provide coverage for ~~F.D.A. approved~~  
12 ~~contraceptive drugs and devices requiring a prescription~~ all of the following services and  
13 contraceptive methods. Provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to mandate or  
14 require coverage for the prescription drug RU 486.

15 (1) All FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products. The following  
16 applies to this coverage:

17 (i) If there is a therapeutic equivalent of an FDA-approved contraceptive drug, device, or  
18 product, the contract must include either the original FDA-approved contraceptive drug device, or  
19 product or at least one of its therapeutic equivalents. "Therapeutic equivalent" shall have the same  
20 definition as that set forth by the FDA.

21 (ii) If the covered therapeutic equivalent versions of a drug, device, or product are not  
22 available or are deemed medically inadvisable, a group or blanket policy shall provide coverage  
23 for an alternate therapeutic equivalent version of the contraceptive drug, device, or product, based  
24 on the determination of the health care provider, without cost-sharing;

25 (iii) Coverage required by this section must include all over-the-counter contraceptive  
26 drugs, devices and products approved by the FDA when prescribed by a licensed provider,  
27 excluding male condoms;

28 (2) Voluntary sterilization procedures.

29 (3) Patient education and counseling on contraception; and

30 (4) Follow-up services related to the drugs, devices, products, and procedures covered  
31 under this section, including, but not limited to, management of side effects, counseling for  
32 continued adherence, and device insertion and removal.

33 (b) A group or blanket policy subject to this section shall not impose a deductible,  
34 coinsurance, copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement on the coverage provided pursuant

1 to this section. For a qualifying high-deductible health plan for a health savings account, the carrier  
2 shall establish the plan's cost-sharing for the coverage provided pursuant to this section at the  
3 minimum level necessary to preserve the enrollee's ability to claim tax-exempt contributions and  
4 withdrawals from his or her health savings account under 26 U.S.C. § 223.

5 (c) Except as otherwise authorized under this subsection, a group or blanket policy shall  
6 not impose any restrictions or delays on the coverage required under this section.

7 (d) Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for an enrollee's covered  
8 spouse or domestic partner and covered non-spouse dependents.

9 ~~(b)~~(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any hospital service corporation  
10 may issue to a religious employer an individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy  
11 that excludes coverage for prescription contraceptive methods that are contrary to the religious  
12 employer's bona fide religious tenets.

13 ~~(e)~~(f) As used in this section, "religious employer" means an employer that is a "church or  
14 a qualified church-controlled organization" as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 3121.

15 ~~(d)~~(g) Every religious employer that invokes the exemption provided under this section  
16 shall provide written notice to prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan, listing the  
17 contraceptive healthcare services the employer refuses to cover for religious reasons.

18 ~~(e)~~(h) Beginning on the first day of each plan year after April 1, 2019, every health  
19 insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage that covers prescription  
20 contraception shall not restrict reimbursement for dispensing a covered prescription contraceptive  
21 up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days at a time.

22 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to exclude coverage for contraceptive drugs,  
23 devices, or products for reasons other than contraceptive purposes, such as decreasing the risk of  
24 ovarian cancer or eliminating symptoms of menopause, or for contraception that is necessary to  
25 preserve the life or health of an enrollee.

26 SECTION 3. Section 27-20-43 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-20 entitled "Nonprofit  
27 Medical Service Corporations" is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 **27-20-43. F.D.A. approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices.**

29 (a) Every individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy issued pursuant to  
30 this title that ~~provides prescription coverage and~~ for delivery, ~~or~~ renewed, amended or effective in  
31 this state on or after January 1, 2023 in this state shall provide coverage for ~~F.D.A. approved~~  
32 ~~contraceptive drugs and devices requiring a prescription~~ all of the following services and  
33 contraceptive methods. Provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to mandate or  
34 require coverage for the prescription drug RU 486.

1 (1) All FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products. The following  
2 applies to this coverage:

3 (i) If there is a therapeutic equivalent of an FDA-approved contraceptive drug, device, or  
4 product, the contract must include either the original FDA-approved contraceptive drug device, or  
5 product or at least one of its therapeutic equivalents. "Therapeutic equivalent" shall have the same  
6 definition as that set forth by the FDA.

7 (ii) If the covered therapeutic equivalent versions of a drug, device, or product are not  
8 available or are deemed medically inadvisable, a group or blanket policy shall provide coverage  
9 for an alternate therapeutic equivalent version of the contraceptive drug, device, or product, based  
10 on the determination of the health care provider, without cost-sharing;

11 (iii) Coverage required by this section must include all over-the-counter contraceptive  
12 drugs, devices and products approved by the FDA when prescribed by a licensed provider,  
13 excluding male condoms;

14 (2) Voluntary sterilization procedures.

15 (3) Patient education and counseling on contraception; and

16 (4) Follow-up services related to the drugs, devices, products, and procedures covered  
17 under this section, including, but not limited to, management of side effects, counseling for  
18 continued adherence, and device insertion and removal.

19 (b) A group or blanket policy subject to this section shall not impose a deductible,  
20 coinsurance, copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement on the coverage provided pursuant  
21 to this section. For a qualifying high-deductible health plan for a health savings account, the carrier  
22 shall establish the plan's cost-sharing for the coverage provided pursuant to this section at the  
23 minimum level necessary to preserve the enrollee's ability to claim tax-exempt contributions and  
24 withdrawals from his or her health savings account under 26 U.S.C. § 223.

25 (c) Except as otherwise authorized under this subsection, a group or blanket policy shall  
26 not impose any restrictions or delays on the coverage required under this section.

27 (d) Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for an enrollee's covered  
28 spouse or domestic partner and covered non-spouse dependents.

29 ~~(b)~~(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any medical service corporation  
30 may issue to a religious employer an individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy  
31 that excludes coverage for prescription contraceptive methods which are contrary to the religious  
32 employer's bona fide religious tenets.

33 ~~(e)~~(f) As used in this section, "religious employer" means an employer that is a "church or  
34 a qualified church-controlled organization" as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 3121.

1           ~~(d)~~(g) Every religious employer that invokes the exemption provided under this section  
2 shall provide written notice to prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan, listing the  
3 contraceptive healthcare services the employer refuses to cover for religious reasons.

4           ~~(e)~~(h) Beginning on the first day of each plan year after April 1, 2019, every health  
5 insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage that covers prescription  
6 contraception shall not restrict reimbursement for dispensing a covered prescription contraceptive  
7 up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days at a time.

8           (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to exclude coverage for contraceptive drugs,  
9 devices, or products for reasons other than contraceptive purposes, such as decreasing the risk of  
10 ovarian cancer or eliminating symptoms of menopause, or for contraception that is necessary to  
11 preserve the life or health of an enrollee.

12           SECTION 4. Chapter 42-12.3 of the General Laws entitled "Health Care for Children and  
13 Pregnant Women" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

14           **42-12.3-17. F.D.A.-approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices.**

15           (a) Every individual or group health insurance contract, plan, or policy issued pursuant to  
16 this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or effective in this state on or  
17 after January 1, 2023 shall provide coverage for all of the following services and contraceptive  
18 methods. Provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to mandate or require coverage  
19 for the prescription drug RU 486.

20           (1) All FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products. The following  
21 applies to this coverage:

22           (i) If there is a therapeutic equivalent of an FDA-approved contraceptive drug, device, or  
23 product, the contract must include either the original FDA-approved contraceptive drug device, or  
24 product or at least one of its therapeutic equivalents. "Therapeutic equivalent" shall have the same  
25 definition as that set forth by the FDA.

26           (ii) If the covered therapeutic equivalent versions of a drug, device, or product are not  
27 available or are deemed medically inadvisable, a group or blanket policy shall provide coverage  
28 for an alternate therapeutic equivalent version of the contraceptive drug, device, or product, based  
29 on the determination of the health care provider, without cost-sharing;

30           (iii) Coverage required by this section must include all over-the-counter contraceptive  
31 drugs, devices and products approved by the FDA when prescribed by a licensed provider,  
32 excluding male condoms;

33           (2) Voluntary sterilization procedures.

34           (3) Patient education and counseling on contraception; and

1 (4) Follow-up services related to the drugs, devices, products, and procedures covered  
2 under this section, including, but not limited to, management of side effects, counseling for  
3 continued adherence, and device insertion and removal.

4 (b) A group or blanket policy subject to this section shall not impose a deductible,  
5 coinsurance, copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement on the coverage provided pursuant  
6 to this section. For a qualifying high-deductible health plan for a health savings account, the carrier  
7 shall establish the plan's cost-sharing for the coverage provided pursuant to this section at the  
8 minimum level necessary to preserve the enrollee's ability to claim tax-exempt contributions and  
9 withdrawals from his or her health savings account under 26 U.S.C. § 223.

10 (c) Except as otherwise authorized under this subsection, a group or blanket policy shall  
11 not impose any restrictions or delays on the coverage required under this section.

12 (d) Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for an enrollee's covered  
13 spouse or domestic partner and covered non-spouse dependents.

14 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any health maintenance  
15 corporation may issue to a religious employer an individual or group health insurance contract,  
16 plan, or policy that excludes coverage for prescription contraceptive methods that are contrary to  
17 the religious employer's bona fide religious tenets.

18 (f) As used in this section, "religious employer" means an employer that is a "church or a  
19 qualified church-controlled organization" as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 3121.

20 (g) Every religious employer that invokes the exemption provided under this section shall  
21 provide written notice to prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan, listing the  
22 contraceptive health care services the employer refuses to cover for religious reasons.

23 (h) Beginning on the first day of each plan year after April 1, 2022, every health insurance  
24 issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage that covers prescription contraception  
25 shall not restrict reimbursement for dispensing a covered prescription contraceptive up to three  
26 hundred sixty-five (365) days at a time.

27 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to exclude coverage for contraceptive drugs,  
28 devices, or products for reasons other than contraceptive purposes, such as decreasing the risk of  
29 ovarian cancer or eliminating symptoms of menopause, or for contraception that is necessary to  
30 preserve the life or health of an enrollee.

31 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

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1           This act would require every individual or group health insurance contract effective on or  
2 after January 1, 2023, to provide coverage to the insured and the insured's spouse and dependents  
3 for all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices and other products, voluntary sterilization  
4 procedures, patient education and counseling on contraception and follow-up services as well as  
5 Medicaid coverage for a twelve (12) month supply for Medicaid recipients.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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