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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - PHARMACY FREEDOM OF CHOICE

Introduced By: Representative K. Joseph Shekarchi

Date Introduced: January 22, 2013

Referred To: House Corporations

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 27-29.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-29.1 entitled
2 "Pharmacy Freedom of Choice - Fair Competition and Practices" is hereby amended to read as
3 follows:

4 **27-29.1-4. Mandate to offer a nonrestricted pharmacy network. --** Every health care
5 insurer or employer that offers, delivers or issues for delivery or renews in this state a contract,
6 plan, or policy that provides coverage for pharmaceuticals delivered on an outpatient basis
7 through a restricted pharmacy network, shall:

8 (a) Also offer insurance purchasers or employees an optional benefit plan that includes a
9 nonrestricted pharmacy network; and

10 (b) Subject to a determination by the US Department of Health and Human Services'
11 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the consistency of this subsection with Medicare
12 law and related regulations, offer only nonrestricted pharmacy networks in any Medicare
13 Supplement or Medicare+Choice Plans.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO INSURANCE - PHARMACY FREEDOM OF CHOICE

1 This act would require employers that offer employees coverage for pharmaceuticals
2 through a restricted pharmacy network to also offer an optional benefit plan that includes a
3 nonrestricted pharmacy network.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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