

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Hoyle
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Winters

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 23 – 0 – 2

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Freeman, Garrard, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Read, Richardson, G. Smith, Thatcher, Whisnant

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Whitsett

Nays:

Exc: Verger, Winters

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: February 29, 2012

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires medical assistance coverage of prescription drugs that are immunosuppressant drugs or drugs for treatment of seizures, cancer, HIV or AIDS. Establishes June 30, 2016 sunset date. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Temporary carve out

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 2001, the Legislative Assembly established the Medicaid preferred drug list (PDL). These drugs are part of the legislative carve out that protects patient access to mental health medications. Currently, prior authorization of certain Medicaid prescriptions is subject to the final word of the prescribing practitioner.

Senate Bill 1570-A restores and maintains the assurance of open access for these classes of drugs.