

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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| Action: | Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed |
| Vote: | 8 - 0 - 1 |
| Yeas: | Bonamici, Bruun, Cannon, Flores, Kotek, Maurer, Richardson, Greenlick |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | Gelser |
| Prepared By: | Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator |
| Meeting Dates: | 2/14 (Access sub), 4/2 (Access sub), 4/6 (Full) |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires health insurance policy to provide coverage for orthotic and prosthetic devices that are medically necessary. Directs Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to adopt and update rules listing the prosthetic and orthotic devices covered.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Situation of people who have needed replacement artificial limbs as they grow from children to adults
- Prosthetic limbs as medical necessity versus cosmetic item or durable medical equipment
- Capitation payments from health insurers for prosthetic devices
- Charitable and state agencies that pay for the cost of devices
- Role of orthotic and prosthetic care in maintaining overall patient's overall health
- Need to modify problematic language in measure
- Additional mandate to existing list of state regulated requirements and potential impacts
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Deletes language regarding co-payments and coinsurance imposed by health plan or maximum payments established by DCBS. Deletes language regarding manufacturer determining reasonable lifetime of prosthetic or orthotic device. Eliminates provision allowing DCBS to adopt rules regarding fee and payment schedules. Requires that managed care enrollees be allowed at least the choice of two prosthetic or orthotic providers. Adds the language to the Insurance Code.

BACKGROUND: A prosthetic device is defined as a mechanical device prescribed by a physician or other appropriately licensed practitioner within the scope of this or her practice which replaces all or any part of an extremity, generally known as an "artificial limb," and an orthotic device is a mechanical device, also prescribed by a physician or other appropriately licensed practitioner, is intended to support or correct any defect of form or function of the human body.

The Amputee Coalition of America (ACA) cites statistics showing that approximately two million Americans are living with limb loss or limb deficiency as a result of disease, trauma or birth defects. The ACA launched the Action Plan for People with Limb Loss (APPLL) to address the need for amputees to have appropriate prosthetic and orthotic devices. APPLL has two goals: to pass prosthetic parity laws in all 50 states (currently only six states offer prosthetic parity); and to work at the federal level to ensure that all amputees receive the help needed to obtain adequate and appropriate prosthetic care.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.