

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Gordly, Kruse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Carter, Courtney
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/14

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:

- Veterans' health care
- Insurance industry's support for measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: A prosthetic device is defined as a mechanical device prescribed by a physician or other appropriately licensed practitioner within the scope of his 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.