

Senate Bill 876

Sponsored by Senator TELFER, Representative WHISNANT; Senators ATKINSON, BOQUIST, DEVLIN, FERRIOLI, GEORGE, GIROD, HASS, JOHNSON, KRUSE, METSGER, MORRISETTE, MORSE, NELSON, ROSENBAUM, STARR, VERGER, WALKER, WHITSETT, WINTERS, Representatives BAILEY, BARKER, BARNHART, BENTZ, BERGER, BEYER, BOONE, BRUUN, CAMERON, CLEM, C EDWARDS, D EDWARDS, ESQUIVEL, FREEMAN, GARRARD, GILLIAM, GILMAN, HANNA, HARKER, HUFFMAN, JENSON, KAHL, KENNEMER, KOMP, KRIEGER, MATTHEWS, MAURER, OLSON, ROBLAN, SCHAUFLE, G SMITH, SPRENGER, STIEGLER, THATCHER, THOMPSON, VANORMAN, WEIDNER, WINGARD, WITT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Department of Human Services to pay for brand name rather than generic immunosuppressant drugs prescribed in connection with organ transplants.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to immunosuppressant drugs; amending ORS 414.325.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 414.325 is amended to read:

5 414.325. (1) As used in this section, "legend drug" means any drug requiring a prescription by
6 a practitioner, as defined in ORS 689.005.

7 (2) A licensed practitioner may prescribe such drugs under this chapter as the practitioner in
8 the exercise of professional judgment considers appropriate for the diagnosis or treatment of the
9 patient in the practitioner's care and within the scope of practice. Prescriptions shall be dispensed
10 in the generic form pursuant to ORS 689.515 and pursuant to rules of the Department of Human
11 Services unless the practitioner prescribes otherwise and an exception is granted by the department.

12 (3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section, the department shall place no
13 limit on the type of legend drug that may be prescribed by a practitioner, but the department shall
14 pay only for drugs in the generic form unless an exception has been granted by the department.

15 (4) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, an exception must be applied for and granted
16 before the department is required to pay for minor tranquilizers and amphetamines and amphetamine
17 derivatives, as defined by rule of the department.

18 (5)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (4) of this section and except as provided in paragraph
19 (b) of this subsection, the department is authorized to:

20 (A) Withhold payment for a legend drug when federal financial participation is not available;
21 and

22 (B) Require prior authorization of payment for drugs that the department has determined should
23 be limited to those conditions generally recognized as appropriate by the medical profession.

24 (b) The department may not require prior authorization for therapeutic classes of nonsedating
25 antihistamines and nasal inhalers, as defined by rule by the department, when prescribed by an
26 allergist for treatment of any of the following conditions, as described by the Health Services Com-
27 mission on the funded portion of its prioritized list of services:

28 (A) Asthma;

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (B) Sinusitis;
- 2 (C) Rhinitis; or
- 3 (D) Allergies.

4 (6)(a) The department shall pay a rural health clinic for a legend drug prescribed and dispensed
5 under this chapter by a licensed practitioner at the rural health clinic for an urgent medical con-
6 dition if:

7 (A) There is not a pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic;

8 (B) The prescription is dispensed for a patient outside of the normal business hours of any
9 pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic; or

10 (C) No pharmacy within 15 miles of the clinic dispenses legend drugs under this chapter.

11 (b) As used in this subsection, “urgent medical condition” means a medical condition that arises
12 suddenly, is not life-threatening and requires prompt treatment to avoid the development of more
13 serious medical problems.

14 (7) Notwithstanding ORS 414.334, the department may conduct prospective drug utilization re-
15 view prior to payment for drugs for a patient whose prescription drug use exceeded 15 drugs in the
16 preceding six-month period.

17 (8) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, the department may pay a pharmacy for a
18 particular brand name drug rather than the generic version of the drug after notifying the pharmacy
19 that the cost of the particular brand name drug, after receiving discounted prices and rebates, is
20 equal to or less than the cost of the generic version of the drug.

21 **(9) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3) of this section, when a licensed practitioner**
22 **prescribes a brand name rather than a generic immunosuppressant drug in connection with**
23 **organ transplant, the brand name drug shall be dispensed and the department shall pay for**
24 **the brand name drug without requiring an exception.**