

SB 797 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 4/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires individual and group health insurance policy coverage of orthotic and prosthetic devices medically necessary to restore or maintain ability to complete activities of daily living or essential job-related activities. Defines "orthotic device" and "prosthetic device." Requires Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to adopt and annually update rules listing the prosthetic and orthotic devices covered. Specifies that required coverage includes repair and replacement. Specifies provider network requirements for managed care organizations.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 28; Excused, 2

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Orthotic and prosthetic devices enable people with physical impairments or functional limitations to participate in education, work, and social activities. Orthotic devices include braces and splints. Prosthetic devices include artificial legs and hands. Orthotics and prosthetics are "Essential Health Benefits" under the Affordable Care Act.

Senate Bill 797 A would require health insurance policy coverage of orthotics and prosthetic devices and require the Department of Consumer and Business services to maintain a list of devices to which the coverage requirement applies.