

SB 463 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Hansell

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/08/23

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Campos, Gorsek, Hayden, Patterson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/1, 3/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits health benefit plans from imposing prior authorization or other utilization review requirements on coverage of proton beam therapy if the requirements do not apply to coverage of radiation therapy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability, cost, and utilization review for proton beam therapy and photon therapy

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 2, requiring health plans to provide coverage for proton beam therapy that is no less favorable than coverage for radiation therapy. Subsection (1) of Senate Bill 2 applies to *coverage* and requires that it be no less favorable than the coverage of radiation therapy but does not speak to utilization review provisions. Subsection (2) of Senate Bill 2 applies to the *utilization review* but only prohibits review that is more restrictive than radiation therapy.

Senate Bill 463 prohibits health benefit plans from imposing prior authorization or other utilization review requirements on coverage of proton beam therapy if the requirements do not apply to coverage of radiation therapy.