
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PROPOSED SUB A's HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR H-5353, H-5427 & H-5171

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, March 18, 2025

TIME: Rise of the House

PLACE: Room 135 - State House

SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. [5353](#)

BY Casimiro, Noret, Spears, Donovan, Speakman, Morales, Solomon, Shanley

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC768/1} (Authorizes a pharmacy technician or pharmacy intern to perform technology-assisted dispensing process validation for medications prepared for distribution by another pharmacy technician or intern within an institutional pharmacy.)

02/07/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/14/2025 Scheduled for consideration

House Bill No. [5427](#)

(Dept. of Health)

BY McGaw, Donovan, Kislak, Casimiro, Cotter, Fogarty, Carson, Batista, Potter, Boylan

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC1417/1} (Includes the COVID-19 immunization under the consent and reporting provisions required for pharmacy administered immunizations to individuals between nine (9) and eighteen (18) years of age.)

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

02/21/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/25/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/07/2025 Scheduled for consideration

03/12/2025 Meeting postponed

03/14/2025 Scheduled for consideration

House Bill No. [5171](#)

BY Edwards, Craven, Potter, Caldwell, Kislak, Bennett, Ajello, Batista, McEntee, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- HARM REDUCTION CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND PILOT PROGRAM {LC790/1} (Removes the sunset provision of the four (4) year pilot program to prevent drug overdoses through the establishment of harm reduction centers and creates a permanent program for harm reduction centers.)

01/24/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

*** House Bill No. 5171 Continued on Next Page**

*** House Bill No. 5171 Continued from Previous Page**

01/31/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/06/2025 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/14/2025 Scheduled for consideration

PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE

House Bill No. [5353 SUB A](#)

{LC768/A/1}

House Bill No. [5427 SUB A](#)

{LC1417/A/1}

House Bill No. [5171 SUB A](#)

{LC790/A/1}

SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. [5253](#)

BY Spears, McGaw, Cotter, Noret, Fogarty, Boylan, Speakman, Tanzi, Kislak, Casey ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS {LC698/1} (Removes the age restriction for benefits coverage and requires, for health insurance policies issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2026, that coverage must include reimbursement for applied behavior analysis provider services.)

01/31/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5430](#)

BY Fogarty, Roberts, Cotter, McGaw, Carson, Speakman, Donovan, Spears, Kislak, Kazarian ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES {LC1538/1} (Prohibits an insurance company from imposing any cost-sharing requirements for any diagnostic or supplemental breast examinations.)

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5432](#)

BY Tanzi, Morales, Spears, McGaw, Handy, Fogarty, Ajello, McEntee, Knight, Stewart ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS {LC796/1} (Prohibits health insurance providers from requiring preauthorization for in- network mental health or substance use disorder services.)

02/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5497](#)

BY Fogarty, Carson, Dawson, Cortvriend, Noret, Kazarian, Donovan, Alzate, Ajello, McGaw
ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS {LC1525/1} (Requires EOHHS to develop a budget and seek funding to establish an early childhood mental health hub program to improve access to infant and early childhood mental health services for children under six (6) years and their families.)

02/13/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5550](#)

(Dept. of Health)

BY Shanley, Batista

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS {LC1764/1} (Standardizes successor appointment language for various boards and adds language providing that a quorum be a majority of appointed members and the language applies across several healthcare professional boards that currently lack this language.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

02/27/2025 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5619](#)

BY Ackerman, McNamara, Shallcross Smith, Casimiro, Dawson, McEntee, Bennett, Donovan, Cotter, Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE {LC1918/1} (Requires the department of health to incorporate information about dementia risk factors and reduction into public education and healthcare provider education materials.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5631](#)

BY Finkelman, Spears

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- EMPLOYEE CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK {LC1990/1} (Allows applicants for employment in programs operated by the department involving routine contact with patients, residents, or clients without the presence of other employees to apply to a qualified vendor for a national criminal records check.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5633](#)

BY McGaw, Boylan, Speakman, Kislak, Casimiro, Casey, DeSimone, Tanzi, Edwards, Donovan ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC1849/1} (Allows a pharmacist to dispense a one-time refill for certain medications for continuation of therapy to patients under certain circumstances.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/08/2025 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5635](#)

BY Spears, Azzinaro, Fogarty, Cotter, Caldwell, Donovan ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- LICENSING OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS {LC1804/1} (Changes the name of "applied behavior assistant analyst" to "assistant applied behavior analyst" and makes several changes to provide consistency in the certification language for behavioral analysts.)

02/26/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5850](#)

BY Shallcross Smith, Tanzi, Read, Kislak, Alzate, Slater, Ajello, Stewart, Fogarty, Hull ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS {LC1641/1} (Requires every individual or group health insurance plan on or after January 1, 2026, that provides benefits to reimburse child service providers for therapy services offered through EOHHS certified Kids Connect/Therapeutic Services.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5854](#)

BY Tanzi, McGaw, Fogarty, Ajello, Kislak, Hull, Morales, Potter, Bennett, Cortvriend ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC1383/1} (Adds new sections that set forth conditions for pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation drug therapies, including education approved by state board of pharmacy. The cessation therapies to be covered by all health insurance carriers on or after 1/1/26.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/10/2025 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5855](#)

BY McGaw, Edwards, Giraldo, Cotter, Handy, Boylan, Furtado, Caldwell, Stewart, Voas ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- RHODE ISLAND FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS ACT {LC1847/1} (Amends the types of less expensive generic products which pharmacists may prescribe to include "devices and supplies" and "therapeutically equivalent products" and requires the director to provide a list of therapeutically equivalent products.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

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03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/08/2025 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5856](#)

BY Roberts, Quattrocchi, Place, Chippendale, Fascia, Santucci, Nardone

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VACCINATION, TESTING, AND MASK MANDATES PROHIBITION {LC1043/1} (Prohibits any person mandating a COVID-19 vaccination without providing individual exemptions that allow a person to opt out of such mandate.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5859](#)

BY Cotter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- SANITATION IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS {LC403/1} (Permits the use of private well water in food service establishment's restrooms if the water complies with the standards established pursuant to § 23-1-5.3(8).)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5866](#)

BY McGaw, Boylan, Furtado, Caldwell, Casimiro, Stewart, Voas, Fogarty, Solomon, Cotter

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT {LC1584/1} (Increases the maximum fill for non-opioid, non-narcotic controlled substances found in schedule II, so that a ninety-day (90) supply may be dispensed at any one time.)

02/28/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/07/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/08/2025 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [6061](#)

BY Tanzi, Cruz, Potter, Morales, Giraldo, Kislak, Diaz, Casimiro, Alzate, Stewart

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS {LC1503/1} (Amends the provisions for insurance coverage of mental health, mental illness, and substance use disorders.)

03/12/2025 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

03/14/2025 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

FOR INFORMATION ON TESTIMONY IN HOUSE COMMITTEES [CLICK HERE](#)

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TELEVISION AND LIVESTREAM INFORMATION

The meeting will be televised by Capitol Television on: Cox Communications, channels 15 and 61 for high definition; i3Broadband (Formerly Full Channel) on 15; and Verizon, on channel 34. Livestreaming is available at <https://capitoltvri.cablecast.tv>.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The General Assembly strives to make the legislative process accessible to all, anyone needing an accommodation to attend or testify at a legislative hearing, please contact Stacy Custer at scuster@rilegislature.gov or 401-222-7904, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Steven Sepe
Committee Clerk
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