

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB234-E

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Hope

3. Committee: Commerce and Labor

4. Title: Health insurance; synchronization of medications

5. Summary: Requires any health plan providing prescription drug coverage to permit and apply a prorated daily cost-sharing rate to prescriptions that are dispensed by a network pharmacy for a partial supply if the prescribing provider or the pharmacist determines the fill or refill to be in the best interest of the enrollee and the enrollee requests or agrees to a partial supply for the purpose of synchronizing the enrollee's medications, provided that such a proration for any prescription shall not occur more frequently than annually.

The measure also prohibits such a health plan from denying coverage for the dispensing of a medication that is dispensed by a network pharmacy on the basis that the dispensing is for a partial supply if the prescribing provider or the pharmacist determines the fill or refill is in the best interest of the enrollee and the enrollee requests or agrees to a partial supply for the purpose of synchronizing his medications.

The measure requires health plans to allow a pharmacy to override denial codes indicating that a prescription is being refilled too soon for the purpose of synchronizing the enrollee's medications. The measure prohibits health plans from using payment structures incorporating prorated dispensing fees and requires that dispensing fees for partially filled or refilled prescriptions be paid in full for each prescription dispensed regardless of any prorated copay or fee paid for synchronization services.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Human Resource Management and State Corporation Commission

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The House amendment adds the provision that a proration for any prescription shall not occur more frequently than annually.