

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 7207

Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF INSURER REPORTS CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH PARITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 38a-477ee of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- 3 (a) For the purposes of this section:
- 4 (1) "Health carrier" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-5 1080;

(2) "Mental health and substance use disorder benefits" means all 6 7 benefits for the treatment of a mental health condition or a substance 8 use disorder that (A) falls under one or more of the diagnostic categories 9 listed in the chapter concerning mental disorders in the most recent edition of the International Classification of Diseases, or (B) is a mental 10 11 disorder, as that term is defined in the most recent edition of the 12 American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual 13 of Mental Disorders"; and

(3) "Nonquantitative treatment limitation" means a limitation that
cannot be expressed numerically but otherwise limits the scope or
duration of a covered benefit.

(b) Not later than March 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, each health
carrier shall submit a report to the Insurance Commissioner, in a form
and manner prescribed by the commissioner, containing the following
information for the calendar year immediately preceding:

(1) A description of the processes that such health carrier used to
develop and select criteria to assess the medical necessity of (A) mental
health and substance use disorder benefits, and (B) medical and surgical
benefits;

(2) A description of all nonquantitative treatment limitations that
such health carrier applied to (A) mental health and substance use
disorder benefits, and (B) medical and surgical benefits; and

28 (3) The results of an analysis concerning the processes, strategies, 29 evidentiary standards and other factors that such health carrier used in 30 developing and applying the criteria described in subdivision (1) of this 31 subsection and each nonquantitative treatment limitation described in 32 subdivision (2) of this subsection, provided the commissioner shall not 33 disclose such results in a manner that is likely to compromise the 34 financial, competitive or proprietary nature of such results. The results 35 of such analysis shall, at a minimum:

(A) Disclose each factor that such health carrier considered,
regardless of whether such health carrier rejected such factor, in (i)
designing each nonquantitative treatment limitation described in
subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (ii) determining whether to apply
such nonquantitative treatment limitation;

(B) Disclose any and all evidentiary standards, which standards may
be qualitative or quantitative in nature, applied under a factor described
in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and, if no evidentiary standard

44 is applied under such a factor, a clear description of such factor;

45 (C) Provide the comparative analyses, including the results of such 46 analyses, performed to determine that the processes and strategies used 47 to design each nonquantitative treatment limitation, as written, and the 48 processes and strategies used to apply such nonquantitative treatment 49 limitation, as written, to mental health and substance use disorder 50 benefits are comparable to, and applied no more stringently than, the 51 processes and strategies used to design each nonquantitative treatment 52 limitation, as written, and the processes and strategies used to apply 53 such nonquantitative treatment limitation, as written, to medical and 54 surgical benefits;

55 (D) Provide the comparative analyses, including the results of such 56 analyses, performed to determine that the processes and strategies used 57 to apply each nonquantitative treatment limitation, in operation, to 58 mental health and substance use disorder benefits are comparable to, 59 and applied no more stringently than, the processes and strategies used 50 to apply each nonquantitative treatment limitation, in operation, to 58 medical and surgical benefits; and

62 (E) Disclose information that, in the opinion of the Insurance 63 Commissioner, is sufficient to demonstrate that such health carrier, 64 consistent with the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health 65 Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, P.L. 110-343, as amended from 66 time to time, and regulations adopted thereunder, (i) applied each 67 nonquantitative treatment limitation described in subdivision (2) of this 68 subsection comparably, and not more stringently, to (I) mental health 69 and substance use disorder benefits, and (II) medical and surgical 70 benefits, and (ii) complied with (I) sections 38a-488c and 38a-514c, (II) 71 sections 38a-488a and 38a-514, (III) sections 38a-510 and 38a-544, and 72 (IV) the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and 73 Addiction Equity Act of 2008, P.L. 110-343, as amended from time to 74 time, and regulations adopted thereunder.

(c) (1) Not later than April 15, 2021, and annually thereafter, the
Insurance Commissioner shall submit each report that the
commissioner received pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for the
calendar year immediately preceding to:

- (A) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
 cognizance of matters relating to insurance, in accordance with section
 11-4a; and
- (B) The Attorney General, Healthcare Advocate and Commissionerof Health Strategy.

84 (2) [Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, the 85 commissioner shall not submit the name or identity of any health carrier 86 or entity that has contracted with such health carrier, and such name or 87 identity shall be given confidential treatment and not be made public by 88 the commissioner] <u>Such report shall be a public record for purposes of</u> 89 the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200.

90 (d) Not later than May 15, 2021, and annually thereafter, the joint 91 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of 92 matters relating to insurance may hold a public hearing concerning the 93 reports that such committee received pursuant to subsection (c) of this 94 section for the calendar year immediately preceding. The Insurance 95 Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall attend the public 96 hearing and inform the committee whether, in the commissioner's 97 opinion, each health carrier, for the calendar year immediately 98 preceding, (1) submitted a report pursuant to subsection (b) of this 99 section that satisfies the requirements established in said subsection, 100 and (2) complied with (A) sections 38a-488c and 38a-514c, (B) sections 101 38a-488a and 38a-514, (C) sections 38a-510 and 38a-544, and (D) the Paul 102 Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction 103 Equity Act of 2008, P.L. 110-343, as amended from time to time, and 104 regulations adopted thereunder.

105 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any disclosure

in violation of (1) 42 USC 290dd-2, as amended from time to time, (2) 42
USC 1320d et seq., as amended from time to time, (3) 42 CFR 2, as
amended from time to time, and (4) 45 CFR 160.101 to 164.534, inclusive,
as amended from time to time.

(f) The Insurance Commissioner may adopt regulations, inaccordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2025	38a-477ee

Statement of Purpose:

To make reports submitted by insurers to the Insurance Department concerning how the insurers assess the medical necessity of mental health and other benefits a public record for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]