

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

**HOUSE BILL NOS. 2642, 2296, 1966 &
1680**

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6283H.04C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to insurance coverage of alternatives to opioid drugs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 376.1280, to read as follows:

376.1280. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 **(1) "Acute pain", pain that results from disease, accidental or intentional**
3 **trauma, or other causes, that a health care provider reasonably expects to last thirty**
4 **days or fewer;**

5 **(2) "Chronic pain", pain that is a persistent and long-lasting condition**
6 **characterized by discomfort or pain that lasts for more than twelve weeks, often**
7 **persisting beyond the expected healing time. It may result from various causes,**
8 **including, but not limited to, injury, surgery, nerve damage, or underlying medical**
9 **conditions;**

10 **(3) "Enrollee", the same meaning given to the term in section 376.1350;**

11 **(4) "Health benefit plan", the same meaning given to the term in section**
12 **376.1350;**

13 **(5) "Health care professional", the same meaning given to the term in section**
14 **376.1350.**

15 **2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when a licensed health**
16 **care professional acting within the scope of his or her license prescribes a nonopioid**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **medication for the treatment of acute or chronic pain to an enrollee, it shall be unlawful**
18 **for a health benefit plan to:**

19 **(1) Deny coverage of the nonopioid prescription drug in favor of an opioid**
20 **prescription drug;**

21 **(2) Require the enrollee to try an opioid prescription drug before providing**
22 **coverage of the nonopioid prescription drug; or**

23 **(3) Require a higher level of cost-sharing for the nonopioid prescription drug**
24 **than for an opioid prescription drug.**

25 **3. This section shall apply to health benefit plans delivered, issued for delivery,**
26 **continued, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027.**

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