

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

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

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6283H.04P

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.

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.

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**  
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.**

✓