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MANDATORY COVERAGE FOR PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

House Bills 4806-4808
Sponsor: Rep. Samuel Buzz Thomas
Committee: Insurance

Complete to 7-28-97

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4806-4808 AS INTRODUCED 5-20-97

The bill would require health insurance policies and similar certificates and contracts to cover medically recognized diagnostic screening for prostatic cancer as follows:

-- If recommended by a physician, at any age for men with a prior history of prostate cancer;

-- Annually for asymptomatic men 50 years of age or older; for African-American men 40 years of age or older; and for men 40 years of age and older with a family history of prostate cancer.

Under the bill, the expression "medically recognized diagnostic screening for prostatic cancer" would include, but not be limited to, digital rectal examinations, transrectal ultrasonography, and prostate-specific antigen tests.

House Bill 4806 would amend the Insurance Code (MCL 500.3406j) to apply to expense-incurred hospital, medical, or surgical policies and certificates of commercial health insurance companies. House Bill 4807 would amend the Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Reform Act (MCL 550.1416b) to apply to group and nongroup certificates of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan. House Bill 4808 would amend the Public Health Code (MCL 333.21053d) to apply to group and individual contracts of health maintenance organizations (HMOs).

Analyst: C. Couch

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