**South Carolina General Assembly**

123rd Session, 20019-2020

**AXX, RXX, SXX**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors:

Document Path:

Companion/Similar bill(s):

Introduced in the Senate on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Introduced in the House on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Summary: Mental health and substance use disorder parity

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

(AXX, RXX, SXX)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 38-71-895 TO ESTABLISH INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICATIONS USED TO TREAT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Insurance requirements for substance use disorder medications**

SECTION 1. Chapter 71, Title 38 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 38 71 895. (A) Each health insurance issuer that provides prescription drug benefits for medications for the treatment of substance use disorders shall not impose any prior authorization requirements on any prescription medication approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of substance use disorders.

(B) Each health insurance issuer that provides prescription drug benefits for medications for the treatment of substance use disorders shall not impose any step therapy requirements before the issuer will authorize coverage for a prescription medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of substance use disorders.

(C) Each health insurance issuer that provides prescription drug benefits for medications for the treatment of substance use disorders shall place all prescription medications approved by the FDA for the treatment of substance use disorders on the lowest tier of the drug formulary developed and maintained by the issuer.

(D) Each health insurance issuer that provides prescription drug benefits for medications for the treatment of substance use disorders shall not exclude coverage for any prescription medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of substance use disorders and any associated counseling or wraparound services on the grounds that such medications and services were court ordered.”

(E) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Health insurance issuer" or "issuer" means an entity that provides health insurance coverage in this State as defined in Section 38-71-840(16).

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This act takes effect June 30, 2019, and applies to health insurance issuers on or after the effective date of this act.