

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: SB149

Bill Subtitle: TO REGULATE THE SUBSTITUTION OF BIOSIMILAR BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS FOR CERTAIN PRESCRIBED PRODUCTS.

Basic Change :

Senator Files

Allows a pharmacy to switch a member to a "similar" biologic-based medication within a class instead of only allowing a switch to a specific generic version of the prescribed medicine. Generally biologic medications don't have a true equivalent generic product, the two products are viewed as "similar" and no automatic substitutions have been allowed.

Revenue Impact :

None

Taxpayer Impact :

None

Resources Required :

None

Time Required :

None

Procedural Changes :

None

Other Comments :

This would likely have a positive impact on the drug spend for the health plan since; generally speaking, the Biosimilar medications are somewhat less expensive than the original name brand. However the benefit would be small in comparison to the total drug spend and not be something that would provide any actuarial rating credit or discount but would simply be seen in the claims experience of future years.

Legal Analysis :

None