

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4209

To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to limit co-payment, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a specialty drug tier to the dollar amount (or its equivalent) of such requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a non-preferred brand drug tier, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2012

Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to limit co-payment, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a specialty drug tier to the dollar amount (or its equivalent) of such requirements applicable to prescription drugs in a non-preferred brand drug tier, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Patients’ Access to
3 Treatments Act of 2012”.

4 **SEC. 2. CO-PAYMENT, COINSURANCE, AND OTHER COST-**
5 **SHARING REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO**
6 **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN A SPECIALTY DRUG**
7 **TIER.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart II of part A of title
9 XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg
10 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 2719B. CO-PAYMENT, COINSURANCE, AND OTHER**
12 **COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE**
13 **TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN A SPECIALTY**
14 **DRUG TIER.**

15 “(a) REQUIREMENT.—A group health plan, or a
16 health insurance issuer offering group or individual health
17 insurance, that provides coverage for prescription drugs
18 and uses a formulary or other tiered cost-sharing struc-
19 ture shall not impose co-payment, coinsurance, or other
20 cost-sharing requirements applicable to prescription drugs
21 in a specialty drug tier that exceed the dollar amount (or
22 its equivalent) of co-payment, coinsurance, or other cost-
23 sharing requirements applicable to prescription drugs in
24 a non-preferred brand drug tier (or prescription drugs in
25 a brand drug tier if there is no non-preferred brand drug
26 tier).

1 “(b) SPECIAL RULE.—If a formulary used by a group
2 health plan or a health insurance issuer offering group or
3 individual health insurance contains more than one non-
4 preferred brand drug tier, then the requirements of sub-
5 section (a) shall be applied with respect to the non-pre-
6 ferred brand drug tier for which beneficiary cost-sharing
7 is lowest.

8 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) The term ‘prescription drug’ means—

10 “(A) a drug subject to section 503(b)(1) of
11 the Federal Food, Drug, or Cosmetic Act; and

12 “(B) includes a drug described in subpara-
13 graph (A) that is a biological product (as de-
14 fined in section 351(i) of this Act).

15 “(2) The term ‘non-preferred brand drug tier’
16 means, with respect to a group health plan or health
17 insurance issuer offering group or individual health
18 insurance coverage that uses a formulary or other
19 tiered cost-sharing structure, a category of drugs—

20 “(A) within a tier in such formulary for
21 which beneficiary cost-sharing is greater than
22 tiers for generic drugs or preferred brand drugs
23 in the plan’s formulary;

24 “(B) that are prescription drugs; and

1 “(C) that are not included within a spe-
2 cialty drug tier.

3 “(3) The term ‘specialty drug tier’ means, with
4 respect to a group health plan or health insurance
5 issuer offering group or individual health insurance
6 coverage that uses a formulary or other tiered cost-
7 sharing structure, a category of drugs—

8 “(A) within a tier in such formulary for
9 which beneficiary cost-sharing is greater than
10 tiers for generic drugs, preferred brand drugs,
11 or non-preferred drugs in the plan’s formulary;
12 and

13 “(B) that are prescription drugs.”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 2719B of the Public
15 Health Service Act, as added by subsection (a), applies
16 to plan years beginning on or after the date of the enact-
17 ment of this Act.

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