

SB 326

FILED

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**WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

WEST VIRGINIA  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 2009**



**ENROLLED**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

**Senate Bill No. 326**

(SENATOR STOLLINGS, *original sponsor*)

[Passed April 11, 2009; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact §5-16-7 and §5-16-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-15-4j; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-16-3t; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-24-7j; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-25-8h; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-25A-8i, all relating to mandating insurance coverage of dental anesthesia in certain circumstances.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §5-16-7 and §5-16-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted; that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-15-4j; that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section,

designated §33-16-3t; that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-24-7j; that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-25-8h; and that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §33-25A-8i, all to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 5. GENERAL POWERS AND AUTHORITY  
OF THE GOVERNOR, SECRETARY OF STATE  
AND ATTORNEY GENERAL; BOARD OF  
PUBLIC WORKS; MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES,  
COMMISSIONS, OFFICES, PROGRAMS, ETC.**

**ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT.**

**§5-16-7. Authorization to establish group hospital and surgical insurance plan, group major medical insurance plan, group prescription drug plan and group life and accidental death insurance plan; rules for administration of plans; mandated benefits; what plans may provide; optional plans; separate rating for claims experience purposes.**

1 (a) The agency shall establish a group hospital and  
2 surgical insurance plan or plans, a group prescription drug  
3 insurance plan or plans, a group major medical insurance  
4 plan or plans and a group life and accidental death  
5 insurance plan or plans for those employees herein made  
6 eligible, and to establish and promulgate rules for the  
7 administration of these plans, subject to the limitations  
8 contained in this article. Those plans shall include:

9 (1) Coverages and benefits for X ray and laboratory  
10 services in connection with mammograms when medically  
11 appropriate and consistent with current guidelines from  
12 the United States Preventive Services Task Force; pap  
13 smears, either conventional or liquid-based cytology,  
14 whichever is medically appropriate and consistent with  
15 the current guidelines from either the United States  
16 Preventive Services Task Force or The American College

17 of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; and a test for the  
18 human papilloma virus (HPV) when medically appropriate  
19 and consistent with current guidelines from either the  
20 United States Preventive Services Task Force or The  
21 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists,  
22 when performed for cancer screening or diagnostic  
23 services on a woman age eighteen or over;

24 (2) Annual checkups for prostate cancer in men age fifty  
25 and over;

26 (3) Annual screening for kidney disease as determined  
27 to be medically necessary by a physician using any combi-  
28 nation of blood pressure testing, urine albumin or urine  
29 protein testing and serum creatinine testing as recom-  
30 mended by the National Kidney Foundation;

31 (4) For plans that include maternity benefits, coverage  
32 for inpatient care in a duly licensed health care facility for  
33 a mother and her newly born infant for the length of time  
34 which the attending physician considers medically neces-  
35 sary for the mother or her newly born child: *Provided,*  
36 That no plan may deny payment for a mother or her  
37 newborn child prior to forty-eight hours following a  
38 vaginal delivery, or prior to ninety-six hours following a  
39 caesarean section delivery, if the attending physician  
40 considers discharge medically inappropriate;

41 (5) For plans which provide coverages for post-delivery  
42 care to a mother and her newly born child in the home,  
43 coverage for inpatient care following childbirth as pro-  
44 vided in subdivision (4) of this subsection if inpatient care  
45 is determined to be medically necessary by the attending  
46 physician. Those plans may also include, among other  
47 things, medicines, medical equipment, prosthetic appli-  
48 ances and any other inpatient and outpatient services and  
49 expenses considered appropriate and desirable by the  
50 agency; and

51 (6) Coverage for treatment of serious mental illness.

52 (A) The coverage does not include custodial care,  
53 residential care or schooling. For purposes of this section,  
54 "serious mental illness" means an illness included in the  
55 American Psychiatric Association's diagnostic and statisti-  
56 cal manual of mental disorders, as periodically revised,  
57 under the diagnostic categories or subclassifications of: (i)  
58 Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders; (ii) bipolar  
59 disorders; (iii) depressive disorders; (iv) substance-related  
60 disorders with the exception of caffeine-related disorders  
61 and nicotine-related disorders; (v) anxiety disorders; and  
62 (vi) anorexia and bulimia. With regard to any covered  
63 individual who has not yet attained the age of nineteen  
64 years, "serious mental illness" also includes attention  
65 deficit hyperactivity disorder, separation anxiety disorder  
66 and conduct disorder.

67 (B) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section  
68 to the contrary, in the event that the agency can demon-  
69 strate actuarially that its total anticipated costs for the  
70 treatment of mental illness for any plan will exceed or  
71 have exceeded two percent of the total costs for such plan  
72 in any experience period, then the agency may apply  
73 whatever cost-containment measures may be necessary,  
74 including, but not limited to, limitations on inpatient and  
75 outpatient benefits, to maintain costs below two percent  
76 of the total costs for the plan.

77 (C) The agency shall not discriminate between medi-  
78 cal-surgical benefits and mental health benefits in the  
79 administration of its plan. With regard to both medi-  
80 cal-surgical and mental health benefits, it may make  
81 determinations of medical necessity and appropriateness,  
82 and it may use recognized health care quality and cost  
83 management tools, including, but not limited to, limita-  
84 tions on inpatient and outpatient benefits, utilization  
85 review, implementation of cost-containment measures,

86 preauthorization for certain treatments, setting coverage  
87 levels, setting maximum number of visits within certain  
88 time periods, using capitated benefit arrangements, using  
89 fee-for-service arrangements, using third-party adminis-  
90 trators, using provider networks and using patient cost  
91 sharing in the form of copayments, deductibles and  
92 coinsurance.

93 (7) Coverage for general anesthesia for dental proce-  
94 dures and associated outpatient hospital or ambulatory  
95 facility charges provided by appropriately licensed health  
96 care individuals in conjunction with dental care if the  
97 covered person is:

98 (A) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
99 disabled, and is an individual for whom a successful result  
100 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
101 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
102 medically compromising condition of the individual and  
103 for whom a superior result can be expected from dental  
104 care provided under general anesthesia;

105 (B) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
106 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
107 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
108 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
109 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
110 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
111 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
112 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
113 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
114 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

115 (b) The agency shall make available to each eligible  
116 employee, at full cost to the employee, the opportunity to  
117 purchase optional group life and accidental death insur-  
118 ance as established under the rules of the agency. In  
119 addition, each employee is entitled to have his or her  
120 spouse and dependents, as defined by the rules of the

121 agency, included in the optional coverage, at full cost to  
122 the employee, for each eligible dependent; and with full  
123 authorization to the agency to make the optional coverage  
124 available and provide an opportunity of purchase to each  
125 employee.

126 (c) The finance board may cause to be separately rated  
127 for claims experience purposes:

128 (1) All employees of the State of West Virginia;

129 (2) All teaching and professional employees of state  
130 public institutions of higher education and county boards  
131 of education;

132 (3) All nonteaching employees of the Higher Education  
133 Policy Commission, West Virginia Council for Community  
134 and Technical College Education and county boards of  
135 education; or

136 (4) Any other categorization which would ensure the  
137 stability of the overall program.

138 (d) The agency shall maintain the medical and prescrip-  
139 tion drug coverage for Medicare-eligible retirees by  
140 providing coverage through one of the existing plans or by  
141 enrolling the Medicare-eligible retired employees into a  
142 Medicare-specific plan, including, but not limited to, the  
143 Medicare/Advantage Prescription Drug Plan. In the event  
144 that a Medicare-specific plan would no longer be available  
145 or advantageous for the agency and the retirees, the  
146 retirees shall remain eligible for coverage through the  
147 agency.

**§5-16-9. Authorization to execute contracts for group hospital  
and surgical insurance, group major medical  
insurance, group prescription drug insurance,  
group life and accidental death insurance and  
other accidental death insurance; mandated  
benefits; limitations; awarding of contracts;**

**reinsurance; certificates for covered employees;  
discontinuance of contracts.**

1 (a) The director is hereby given exclusive authorization  
2 to execute such contract or contracts as are necessary to  
3 carry out the provisions of this article and to provide the  
4 plan or plans of group hospital and surgical insurance  
5 coverage, group major medical insurance coverage, group  
6 prescription drug insurance coverage and group life and  
7 accidental death insurance coverage selected in accor-  
8 dance with the provisions of this article, such contract or  
9 contracts to be executed with one or more agencies,  
10 corporations, insurance companies or service organiza-  
11 tions licensed to sell group hospital and surgical insur-  
12 ance, group major medical insurance, group prescription  
13 drug insurance and group life and accidental death  
14 insurance in this state.

15 (b) The group hospital or surgical insurance coverage  
16 and group major medical insurance coverage herein  
17 provided shall include coverages and benefits for X ray  
18 and laboratory services in connection with mammogram  
19 and pap smears when performed for cancer screening or  
20 diagnostic services and annual checkups for prostate  
21 cancer in men age fifty and over. Such benefits shall  
22 include, but not be limited to, the following:

23 (1) Mammograms when medically appropriate and  
24 consistent with the current guidelines from the United  
25 States Preventive Services Task Force;

26 (2) A pap smear, either conventional or liquid-based  
27 cytology, whichever is medically appropriate and consis-  
28 tent with the current guidelines from the United States  
29 Preventative Services Task Force or The American College  
30 of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, for women age  
31 eighteen and over;



32 (3) A test for the human papilloma virus (HPV) for  
33 women age eighteen or over, when medically appropriate  
34 and consistent with the current guidelines from either the  
35 United States Preventive Services Task Force or The  
36 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists for  
37 women age eighteen and over;

38 (4) A checkup for prostate cancer annually for men age  
39 fifty or over; and

40 (5) Annual screening for kidney disease as determined  
41 to be medically necessary by a physician using any combi-  
42 nation of blood pressure testing, urine albumin or urine  
43 protein testing and serum creatinine testing as recom-  
44 mended by the National Kidney Foundation.

45 (6) Coverage for general anesthesia for dental proce-  
46 dures and associated outpatient hospital or ambulatory  
47 facility charges provided by appropriately licensed  
48 healthcare individuals in conjunction with dental care if  
49 the covered person is:

50 (A) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
51 disabled and is either an individual for whom a successful  
52 result cannot be expected from dental care provided under  
53 local anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
54 medically compromising condition of the individual and  
55 for whom a superior result can be expected from dental  
56 care provided under general anesthesia; or

57 (B) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
58 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
59 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
60 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
61 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
62 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
63 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
64 care provided under local anesthesia because of such

65 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
66 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

67 (c) The group life and accidental death insurance herein  
68 provided shall be in the amount of \$10,000 for every  
69 employee. The amount of the group life and accidental  
70 death insurance to which an employee would otherwise be  
71 entitled shall be reduced to \$5,000 upon such employee  
72 attaining age sixty-five.

73 (d) All of the insurance coverage to be provided for  
74 under this article may be included in one or more similar  
75 contracts issued by the same or different carriers.

76 (e) The provisions of article three, chapter five-a of this  
77 code, relating to the Division of Purchasing of the Depart-  
78 ment of Finance and Administration, shall not apply to  
79 any contracts for any insurance coverage or professional  
80 services authorized to be executed under the provisions of  
81 this article. Before entering into any contract for any  
82 insurance coverage, as authorized in this article, the  
83 director shall invite competent bids from all qualified and  
84 licensed insurance companies or carriers, who may wish to  
85 offer plans for the insurance coverage desired: *Provided,*  
86 That the director shall negotiate and contract directly  
87 with health care providers and other entities, organiza-  
88 tions and vendors in order to secure competitive premi-  
89 ums, prices and other financial advantages. The director  
90 shall deal directly with insurers or health care providers  
91 and other entities, organizations and vendors in presenting  
92 specifications and receiving quotations for bid purposes.  
93 No commission or finder's fee, or any combination thereof,  
94 shall be paid to any individual or agent; but this shall not  
95 preclude an underwriting insurance company or compa-  
96 nies, at their own expense, from appointing a licensed  
97 resident agent, within this state, to service the companies'  
98 contracts awarded under the provisions of this article.  
99 Commissions reasonably related to actual service rendered

100 for the agent or agents may be paid by the underwriting  
101 company or companies: *Provided, however,* That in no  
102 event shall payment be made to any agent or agents when  
103 no actual services are rendered or performed. The director  
104 shall award the contract or contracts on a competitive  
105 basis. In awarding the contract or contracts the director  
106 shall take into account the experience of the offering  
107 agency, corporation, insurance company or service organi-  
108 zation in the group hospital and surgical insurance field,  
109 group major medical insurance field, group prescription  
110 drug field and group life and accidental death insurance  
111 field, and its facilities for the handling of claims. In  
112 evaluating these factors, the director may employ the  
113 services of impartial, professional insurance analysts or  
114 actuaries or both. Any contract executed by the director  
115 with a selected carrier shall be a contract to govern all  
116 eligible employees subject to the provisions of this article.  
117 Nothing contained in this article shall prohibit any  
118 insurance carrier from soliciting employees covered  
119 hereunder to purchase additional hospital and surgical,  
120 major medical or life and accidental death insurance  
121 coverage.

122 (f) The director may authorize the carrier with whom a  
123 primary contract is executed to reinsure portions of the  
124 contract with other carriers which elect to be a reinsurer  
125 and who are legally qualified to enter into a reinsurance  
126 agreement under the laws of this state.

127 (g) Each employee who is covered under any contract or  
128 contracts shall receive a statement of benefits to which the  
129 employee, his or her spouse and his or her dependents are  
130 entitled under the contract, setting forth the information  
131 as to whom the benefits are payable, to whom claims shall  
132 be submitted and a summary of the provisions of the  
133 contract or contracts as they affect the employee, his or  
134 her spouse and his or her dependents.

135 (h) The director may at the end of any contract period  
136 discontinue any contract or contracts it has executed with  
137 any carrier and replace the same with a contract or  
138 contracts with any other carrier or carriers meeting the  
139 requirements of this article.

140 (i) The director shall provide by contract or contracts  
141 entered into under the provisions of this article the cost for  
142 coverage of children's immunization services from birth  
143 through age sixteen years to provide immunization against  
144 the following illnesses: Diphtheria, polio, mumps, measles,  
145 rubella, tetanus, hepatitis-b, haemophilus influenzae-b  
146 and whooping cough. Additional immunizations may be  
147 required by the Commissioner of the Bureau for Public  
148 Health for public health purposes. Any contract entered  
149 into to cover these services shall require that all costs  
150 associated with immunization, including the cost of the  
151 vaccine, if incurred by the health care provider, and all  
152 costs of vaccine administration be exempt from any  
153 deductible, per visit charge and/or copayment provisions  
154 which may be in force in these policies or contracts. This  
155 section does not require that other health care services  
156 provided at the time of immunization be exempt from any  
157 deductible and/or copayment provisions.

### **CHAPTER 33. INSURANCE.**

#### **ARTICLE 15. ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE.**

##### **§33-15-4j. Required coverage for dental anesthesia services.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of any policy,  
2 provision, contract, plan or agreement to which this article  
3 applies, any entity regulated by this article shall, on or  
4 after July 1, 2009, provide as benefits to all subscribers  
5 and members coverage for dental anesthesia services as  
6 hereinafter set forth.

7 (b) For purposes of this article and section, “dental  
8 anesthesia services” means general anesthesia for dental  
9 procedures and associated outpatient hospital or ambula-  
10 tory facility charges provided by appropriately licensed  
11 health care individuals in conjunction with dental care  
12 provided to an enrollee or insured if the enrollee or insured  
13 is:

14 (A) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
15 disabled and is an individual for whom a successful result  
16 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
17 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
18 medically compromising condition of the enrollee or  
19 insured and for whom a superior result can be expected  
20 from dental care provided under general anesthesia; or

21 (B) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
22 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
23 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
24 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
25 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
26 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
27 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
28 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
29 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
30 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

31 (c) *Prior authorization.* – An entity subject to this  
32 section may require prior authorization for general  
33 anesthesia and associated out patient hospital or ambula-  
34 tory facility charges for dental care in the same manner  
35 that prior authorization is required for these benefits in  
36 connection with other covered medical care.

37 (d) An entity subject to this section may restrict cover-  
38 age for general anesthesia and associated out patient  
39 hospital or ambulatory facility charges unless the dental  
40 care is provided by:

41 (1) A fully accredited specialist in pediatric dentistry;

42 (2) A fully accredited specialist in oral and  
43 maxillofacial surgery; and

44 (3) A dentist to whom hospital privileges have been  
45 granted.

46 (e) *Dental care coverage not required.* – The provisions  
47 of this section may not be construed to require coverage  
48 for the dental care for which the general anesthesia is  
49 provided.

50 (f) *Temporal mandibular joint disorders.* – The provi-  
51 sions of this section do not apply to dental care rendered  
52 for temporal mandibular joint disorders.

53 (g) A policy, provision, contract, plan or agreement may  
54 apply to dental anesthesia services the same deductibles,  
55 coinsurance and other limitations as apply to other  
56 covered services.

**ARTICLE 16. GROUP ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE.**

**§33-16-3t. Required coverage for dental anesthesia services.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of any policy,  
2 provision, contract, plan or agreement to which this article  
3 applies, any entity regulated by this article shall, on or  
4 after July 1, 2009, provide as benefits to all subscribers  
5 and members coverage for dental anesthesia services as  
6 hereinafter set forth.

7 (b) For purposes of this article and section, “dental  
8 anesthesia services” means general anesthesia for dental  
9 procedures and associated out patient hospital or ambula-  
10 tory facility charges provided by appropriately licensed  
11 health care individuals in conjunction with dental care  
12 provided to an enrollee or insured if the enrollee or insured  
13 is:

14 (1) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
15 disabled and is an individual for whom a successful result  
16 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
17 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
18 medically compromising condition of the enrollee or  
19 insured and for whom a superior result can be expected  
20 from dental care provided under general anesthesia; or

21 (2) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
22 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
23 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
24 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
25 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
26 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
27 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
28 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
29 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
30 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

31 (c) *Prior authorization.* – An entity subject to this  
32 section may require prior authorization for general  
33 anesthesia and associated out patient hospital or ambula-  
34 tory facility charges for dental care in the same manner  
35 that prior authorization is required for these benefits in  
36 connection with other covered medical care.

37 (d) An entity subject to this section may restrict cover-  
38 age for general anesthesia and associated out patient  
39 hospital or ambulatory facility charges unless the dental  
40 care is provided by:

41 (1) A fully accredited specialist in pediatric dentistry;

42 (2) A fully accredited specialist in oral and  
43 maxillofacial surgery; and

44 (3) A dentist to whom hospital privileges have been  
45 granted.

46 (e) *Dental care coverage not required.* – The provisions  
47 of this section may not be construed to require coverage  
48 for the dental care for which the general anesthesia is  
49 provided.

50 (f) *Temporal mandibular joint disorders.* – The provi-  
51 sions of this section do not apply to dental care rendered  
52 for temporal mandibular joint disorders.

53 (g) A policy, provision, contract, plan or agreement may  
54 apply to dental anesthesia services the same deductibles,  
55 coinsurance and other limitations as apply to other  
56 covered services.

**ARTICLE 24. HOSPITAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS, MEDICAL SERVICE  
CORPORATIONS, DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS  
AND HEALTH SERVICE CORPORATIONS.**

**§33-24-7j. Required coverage for dental anesthesia services.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of any policy,  
2 provision, contract, plan or agreement to which this article  
3 applies, any entity regulated by this article shall, on or  
4 after July 1, 2009, provide as benefits to all subscribers  
5 and members coverage for dental anesthesia services as  
6 hereinafter set forth.

7 (b) For purposes of this article and section, “dental  
8 anesthesia services” means general anesthesia for dental  
9 procedures and associated out patient hospital or ambula-  
10 tory facility charges provided by appropriately licensed  
11 health care individuals in conjunction with dental care  
12 provided to an enrollee or insured if the enrollee or insured  
13 is:

14 (1) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
15 disabled and is an individual for whom a successful result  
16 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
17 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
18 medically compromising condition of the enrollee or



19 insured and for whom a superior result can be expected  
20 from dental care provided under general anesthesia; or

21 (2) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
22 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
23 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
24 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
25 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
26 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
27 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
28 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
29 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
30 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

31 (c) *Prior authorization.* – An entity subject to this  
32 section may require prior authorization for general  
33 anesthesia and associated outpatient hospital or ambula-  
34 tory facility charges for dental care in the same manner  
35 that prior authorization is required for these benefits in  
36 connection with other covered medical care.

37 (d) An entity subject to this section may restrict cover-  
38 age for general anesthesia and associated outpatient  
39 hospital or ambulatory facility charges unless the dental  
40 care is provided by:

41 (1) A fully accredited specialist in pediatric dentistry;

42 (2) A fully accredited specialist in oral and  
43 maxillofacial surgery; and

44 (3) A dentist to whom hospital privileges have been  
45 granted.

46 (e) *Dental care coverage not required.* – The provisions  
47 of this section may not be construed to require coverage  
48 for the dental care for which the general anesthesia is  
49 provided.

50 (f) *Temporal mandibular joint disorders*. – The provi-  
51 sions of this section do not apply to dental care rendered  
52 for temporal mandibular joint disorders.

53 (g) A policy, provision, contract, plan or agreement may  
54 apply to dental anesthesia services the same deductibles,  
55 coinsurance and other limitations as apply to other  
56 covered services.

**ARTICLE 25. HEALTH CARE CORPORATIONS.**

**§33-25-8h. Required coverage for dental anesthesia services.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of any policy,  
2 provision, contract, plan or agreement to which this article  
3 applies, any entity regulated by this article shall, on or  
4 after July 1, 2009, provide as benefits to all subscribers  
5 and members coverage for dental anesthesia services as  
6 hereinafter set forth.

7 (b) For purposes of this article and section, “dental  
8 anesthesia services” means general anesthesia for dental  
9 procedures and associated outpatient hospital or ambula-  
10 tory facility charges provided by appropriately licensed  
11 health care individuals in conjunction with dental care  
12 provided to an enrollee or insured if the enrollee or insured  
13 is:

14 (1) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
15 disabled and is an individual for whom a successful result  
16 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
17 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
18 medically compromising condition of the enrollee or  
19 insured and for whom a superior result can be expected  
20 from dental care provided under general anesthesia; or

21 (2) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
22 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
23 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
24 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of

25 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
26 teeth or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
27 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
28 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
29 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
30 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

31 (c) *Prior authorization.* – An entity subject to this  
32 section may require prior authorization for general  
33 anesthesia and associated outpatient hospital or ambula-  
34 tory facility charges for dental care in the same manner  
35 that prior authorization is required for these benefits in  
36 connection with other covered medical care.

37 (d) An entity subject to this section may restrict cover-  
38 age for general anesthesia and associated outpatient  
39 hospital or ambulatory facility charges unless the dental  
40 care is provided by:

41 (1) A fully accredited specialist in pediatric dentistry;

42 (2) A fully accredited specialist in oral and  
43 maxillofacial surgery; and

44 (3) A dentist to whom hospital privileges have been  
45 granted.

46 (e) *Dental care coverage not required.* – The provisions  
47 of this section may not be construed to require coverage  
48 for the dental care for which the general anesthesia is  
49 provided.

50 (f) *Temporal mandibular joint disorders.* – The provi-  
51 sions of this section do not apply to dental care rendered  
52 for temporal mandibular joint disorders.

53 (g) A policy, provision, contract, plan or agreement may  
54 apply to dental anesthesia services the same deductibles,  
55 coinsurance and other limitations as apply to other  
56 covered services.

**ARTICLE 25A. HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION ACT.**

**§33-25A-8i. Third-party reimbursement for dental anesthesia services.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of any policy,  
2 provision, contract, plan or agreement to which this article  
3 applies, any entity regulated by this article shall, on or  
4 after July 1, 2009, provide as benefits to all subscribers  
5 and members coverage for dental anesthesia services as  
6 hereinafter set forth.

7 (b) For purposes of this section, "dental anesthesia  
8 services" means general anesthesia for dental procedures  
9 and associated outpatient hospital or ambulatory facility  
10 charges provided by appropriately licensed health care  
11 individuals in conjunction with dental care provided to a  
12 subscriber or member if the subscriber or member is:

13 (1) Seven years of age or younger or is developmentally  
14 disabled and is an individual for whom a successful result  
15 cannot be expected from dental care provided under local  
16 anesthesia because of a physical, intellectual or other  
17 medically compromising condition of the subscriber or  
18 member and for whom a superior result can be expected  
19 from dental care provided under general anesthesia; or

20 (2) A child who is twelve years of age or younger with  
21 documented phobias, or with documented mental illness,  
22 and with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment  
23 should not be delayed or deferred and for whom lack of  
24 treatment can be expected to result in infection, loss of  
25 teeth, or other increased oral or dental morbidity and for  
26 whom a successful result cannot be expected from dental  
27 care provided under local anesthesia because of such  
28 condition and for whom a superior result can be expected  
29 from dental care provided under general anesthesia.

30 (c) *Prior authorization.* – An entity subject to this  
31 section may require prior authorization for general  
32 anesthesia and associated outpatient hospital, ambulatory  
33 facility or similar charges for dental care in the same  
34 manner that prior authorization is required for these  
35 benefits in connection with other covered medical care.

36 (d) An entity subject to this section may restrict cover-  
37 age for general anesthesia and associated outpatient  
38 hospital or ambulatory facility charges unless the dental  
39 care is provided by:

40 (1) A fully accredited specialist in pediatric dentistry;

41 (2) A fully accredited specialist in oral and  
42 maxillofacial surgery; and

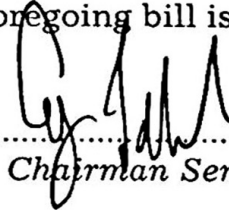
43 (3) A dentist to whom hospital privileges have been  
44 granted.

45 (e) *Dental care coverage not required.* – The provisions  
46 of this section may not be construed to require coverage  
47 for the dental care for which the general anesthesia is  
48 provided.

49 (f) *Temporal mandibular joint disorders.* – The provi-  
50 sions of this section do not apply to dental care rendered  
51 for temporal mandibular joint disorders.

52 (g) A policy, provision, contract, plan or agreement may  
53 apply to dental anesthesia services the same deductibles,  
54 coinsurance and other limitations as apply to other  
55 covered services.

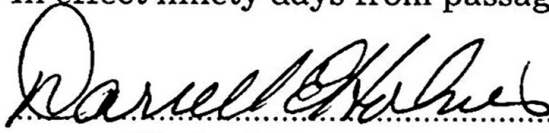
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

  
.....  
Chairman Senate Committee

  
.....  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

  
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Clerk of the Senate

  
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Clerk of the House of Delegates

  
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President of the Senate

  
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Speaker House of Delegates

The within is appended this the 12th  
Day of May, 2009.

  
.....  
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE  
GOVERNOR

MAY 8 2009

Time 10:35